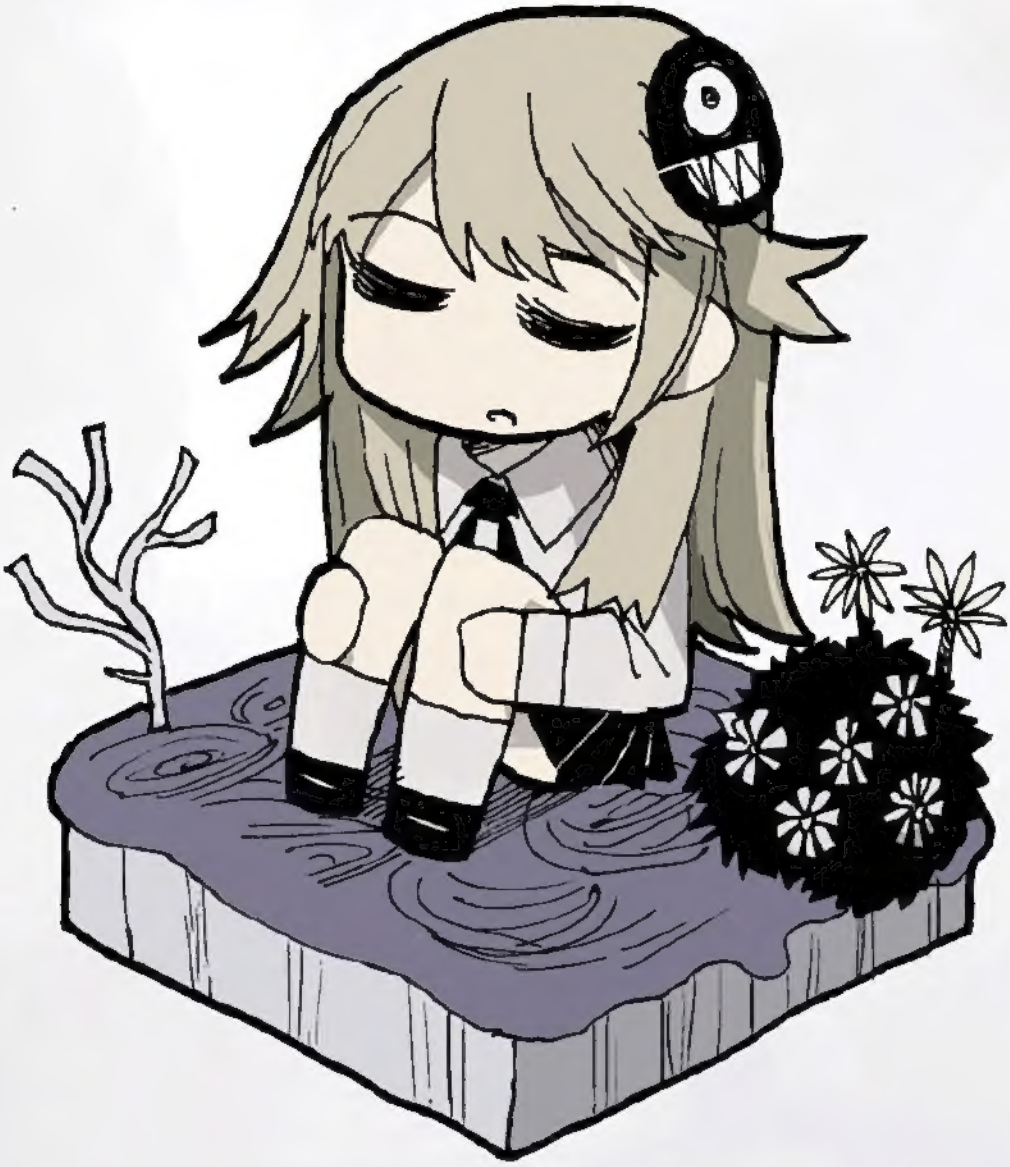
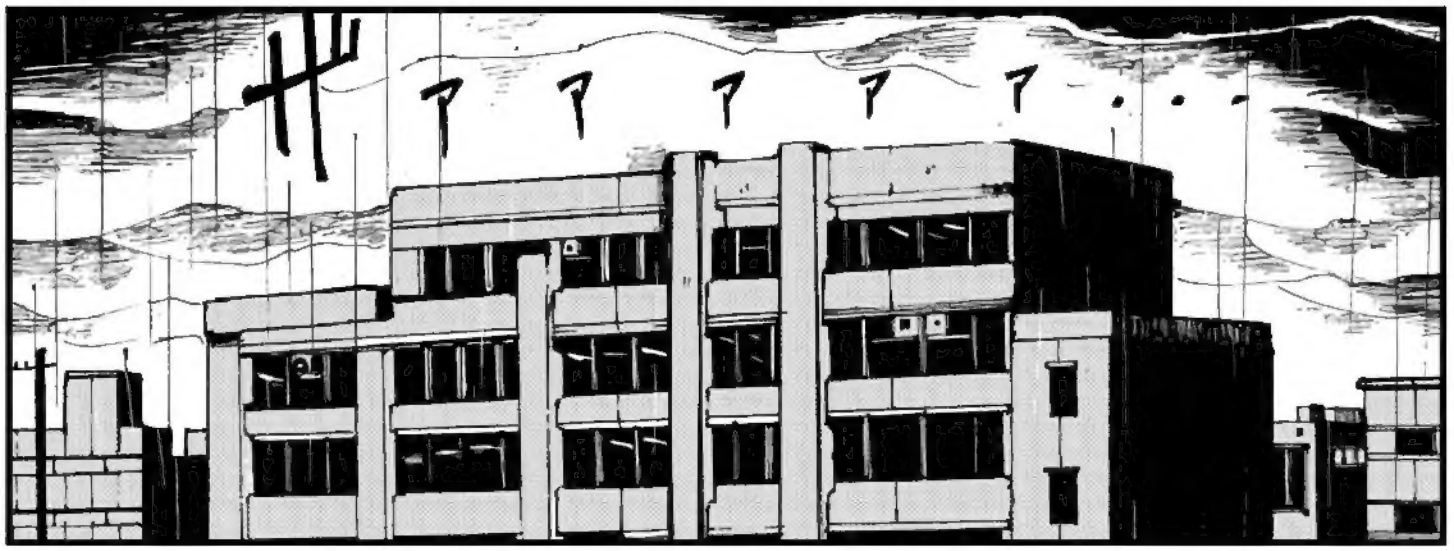


GAME CLUB ④

ABANDONED CITY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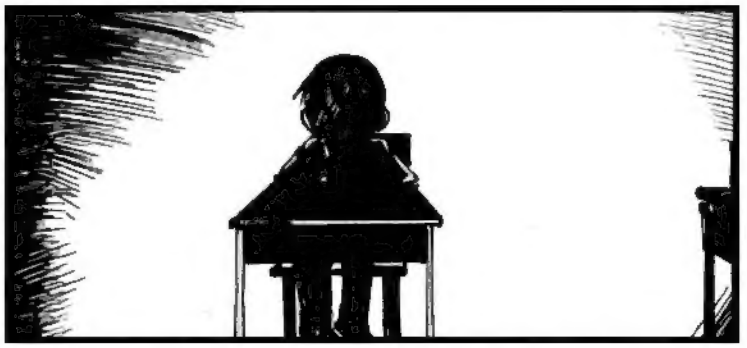

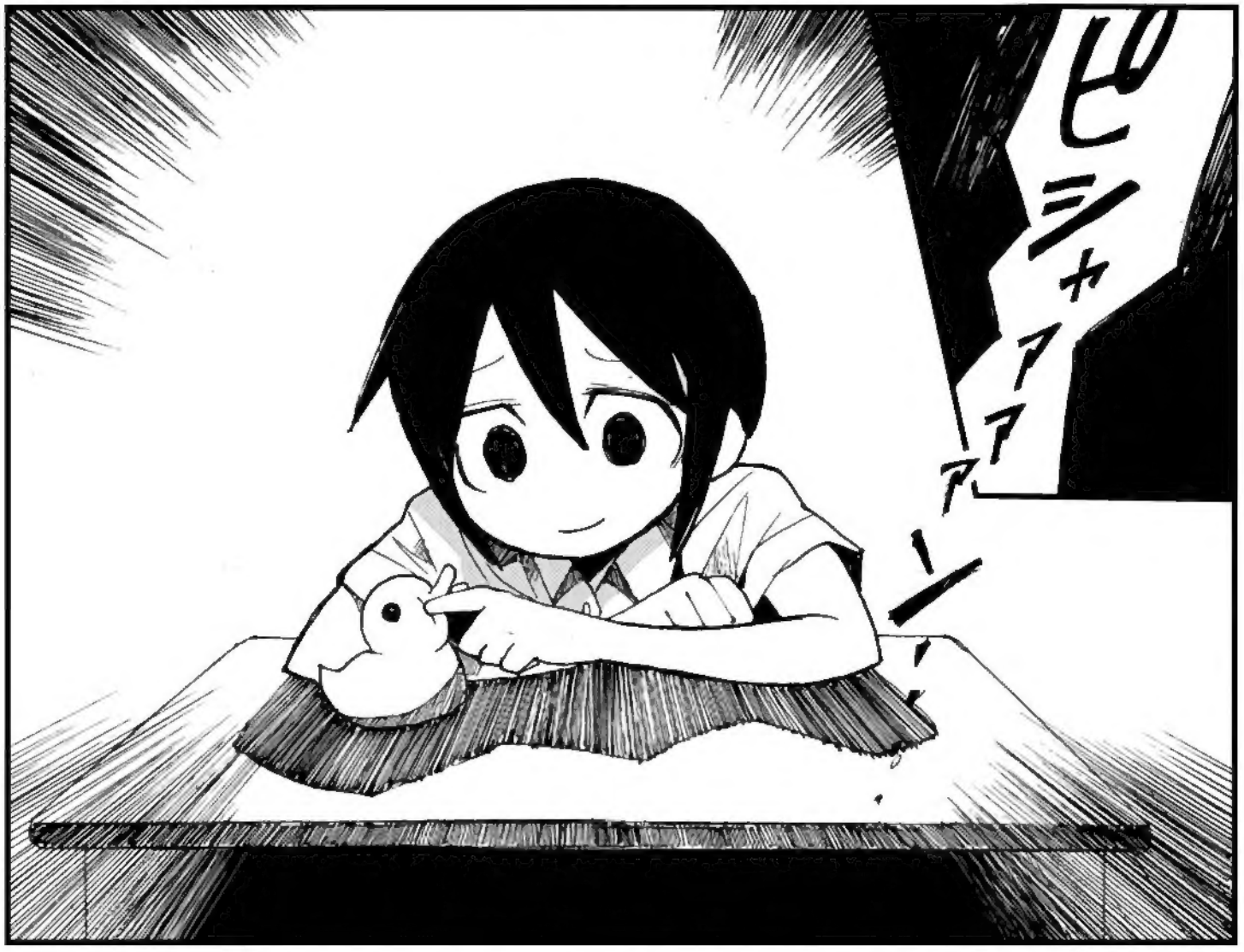
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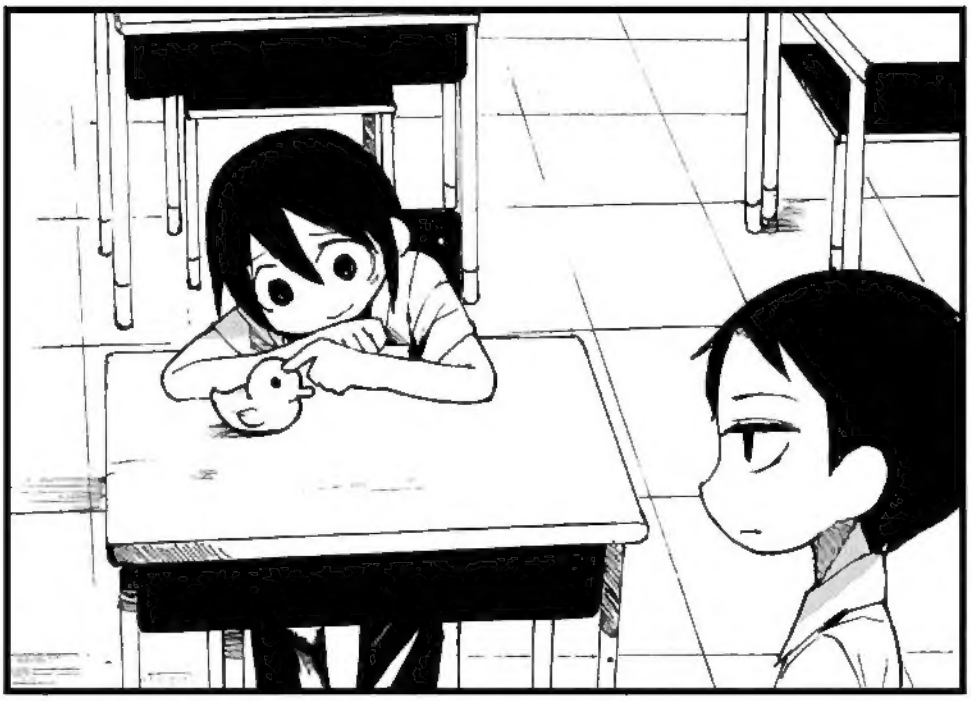
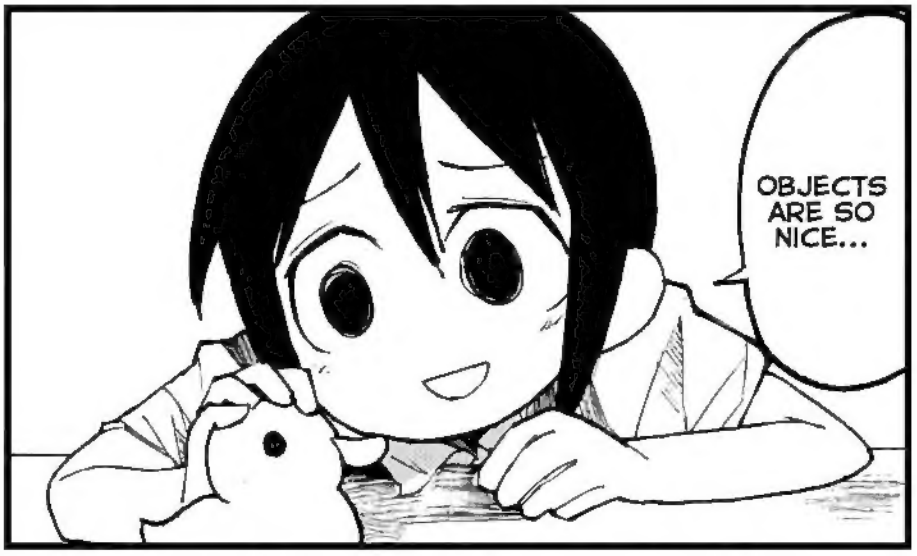
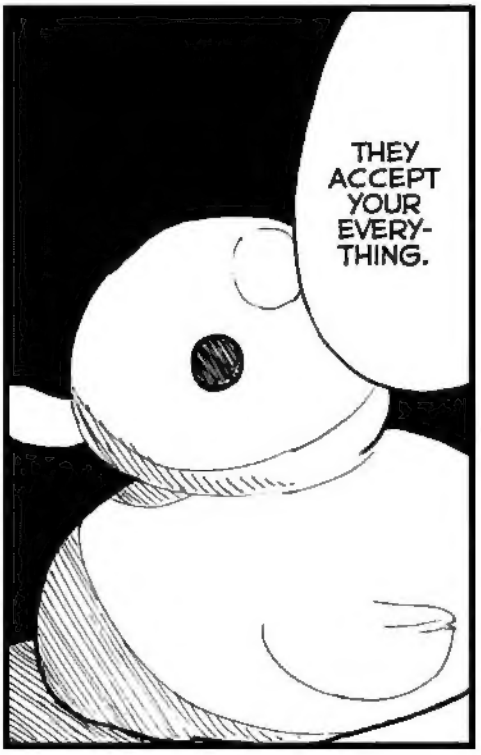
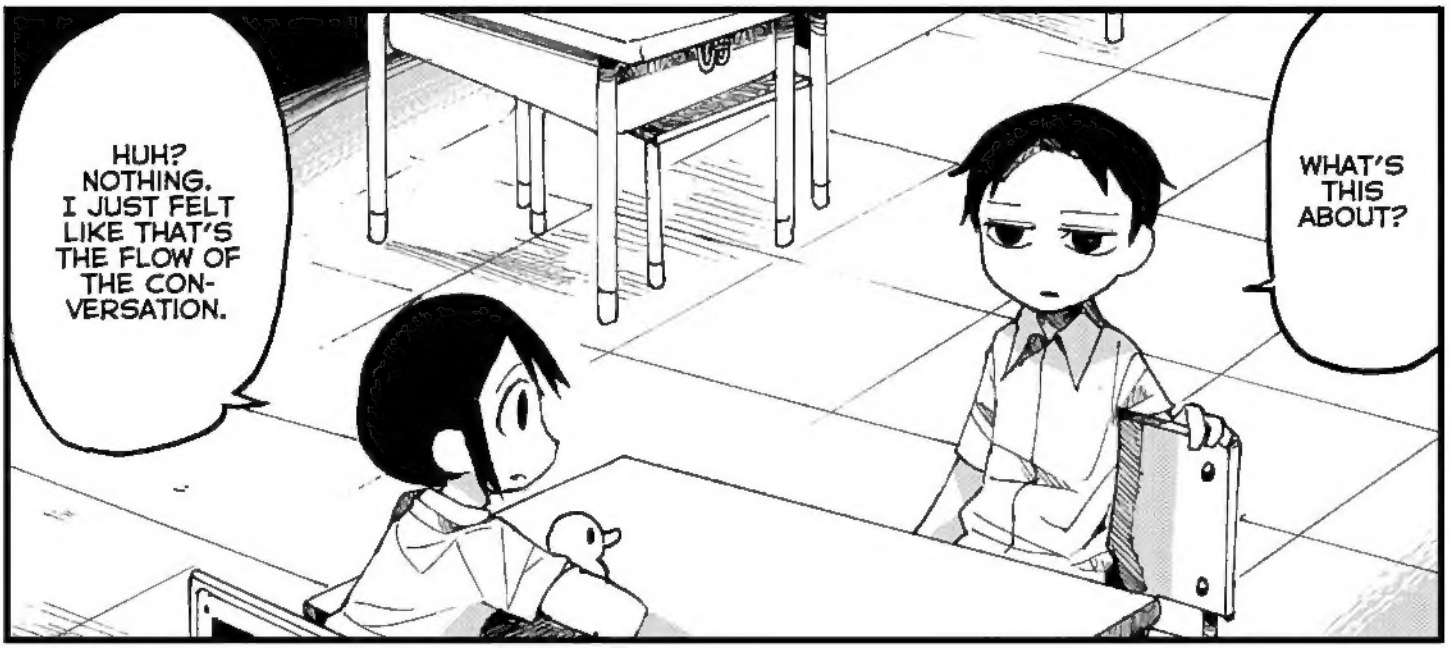


GEN-TLE...
QUIET ...

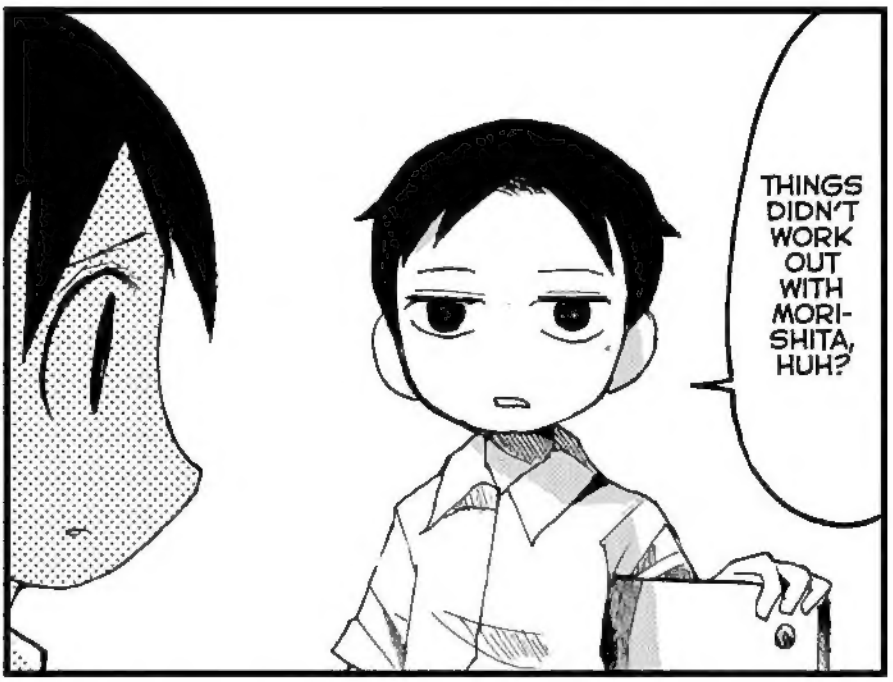

OBJECTS ARE SO NICE...

IF EVERYONE WOULD JUST CARE MORE ABOUT THEM...
IT'D BE A FAR MORE PEACEFUL WORLD


THEY ACCEPT YOUR EVERY-THING.


WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
HUH? NOTHING. I JUST FELT LIKE THAT'S THE FLOW OF THE CON-VERSATION.

I DON'T CARE ANY-MORE.


THINGS DIDN'T WORK OUT WITH MORI-SHITA, HUH?

IT'LL BE ONE AWKWARD SCHOOL LIFE FOR ME FROM NOW ON.
BUT EH, I'LL GET USED TO IT.

IN THE FIRST PLACE, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE PEOPLE YOU CAN'T GET ALONG WITH.

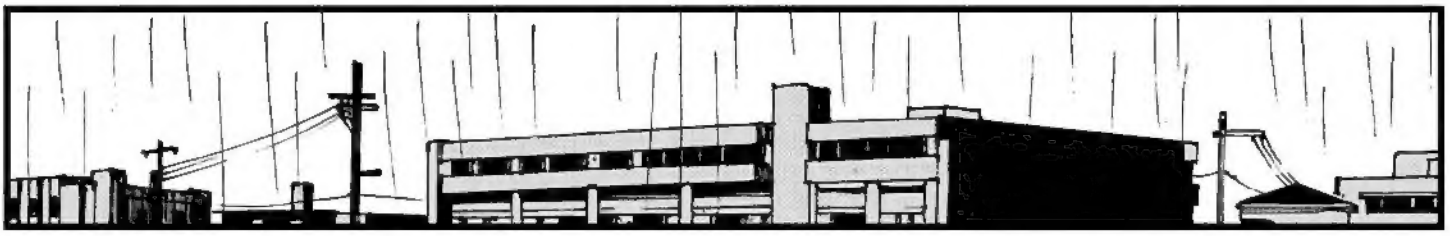
...

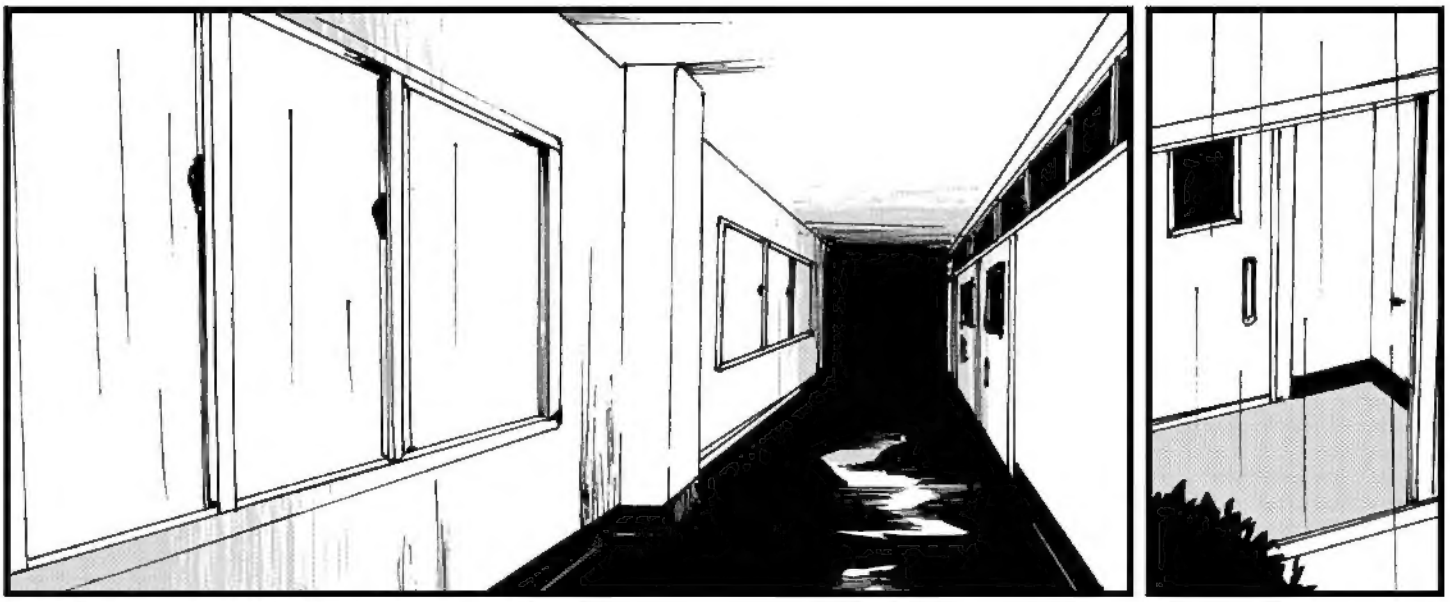
YOU NOT SHOWING UP TO THE CLUB IS MAKING THE PRESIDENT WORRIED ABOUT YOU, YOU KNOW.

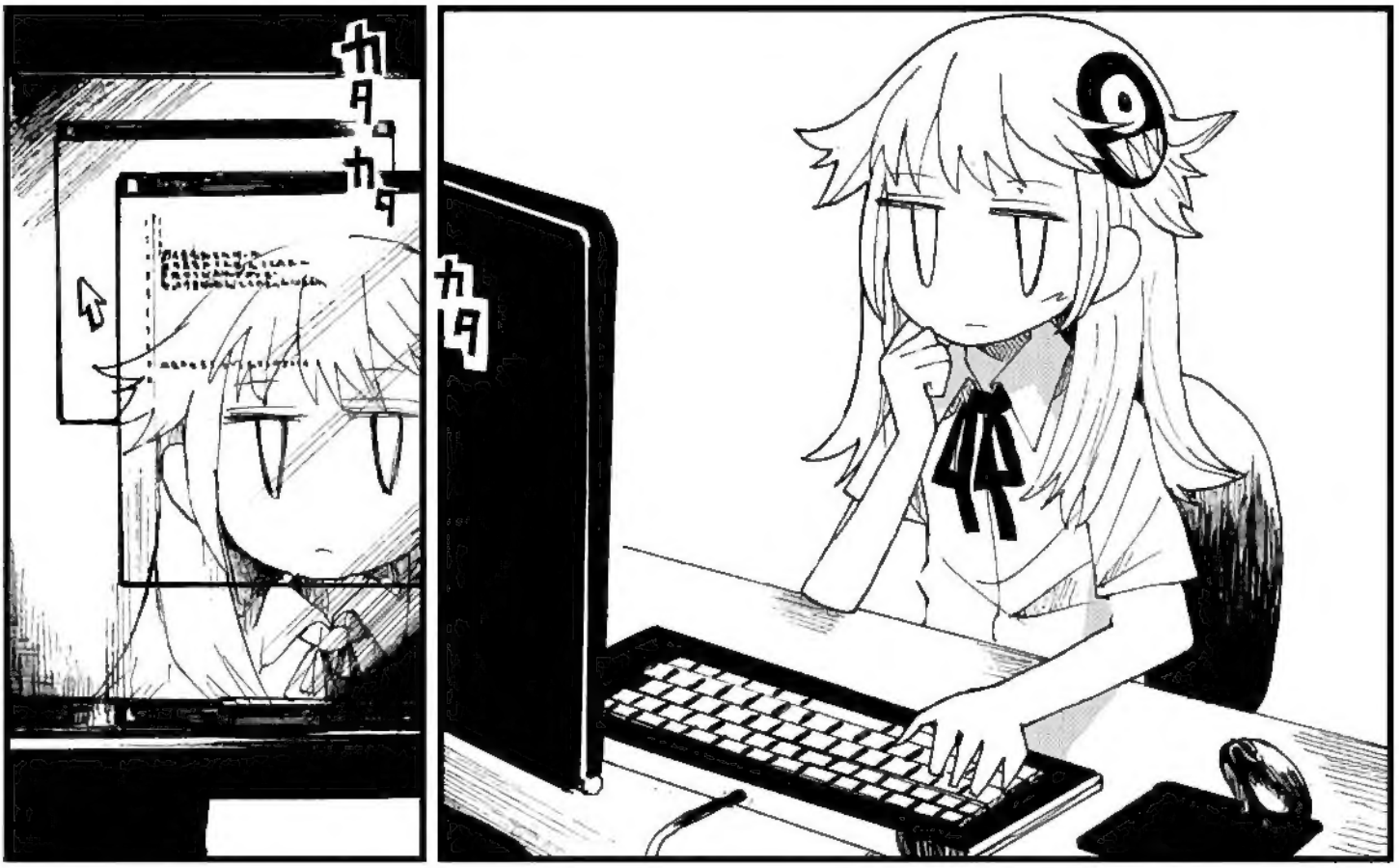
HUH !?
SAID THE PRESIDENT.

HUH !?
MORISHITA WANTS TO APOLOGIZE TOO.

IS SHE SERIOUS?
FOR REAL?



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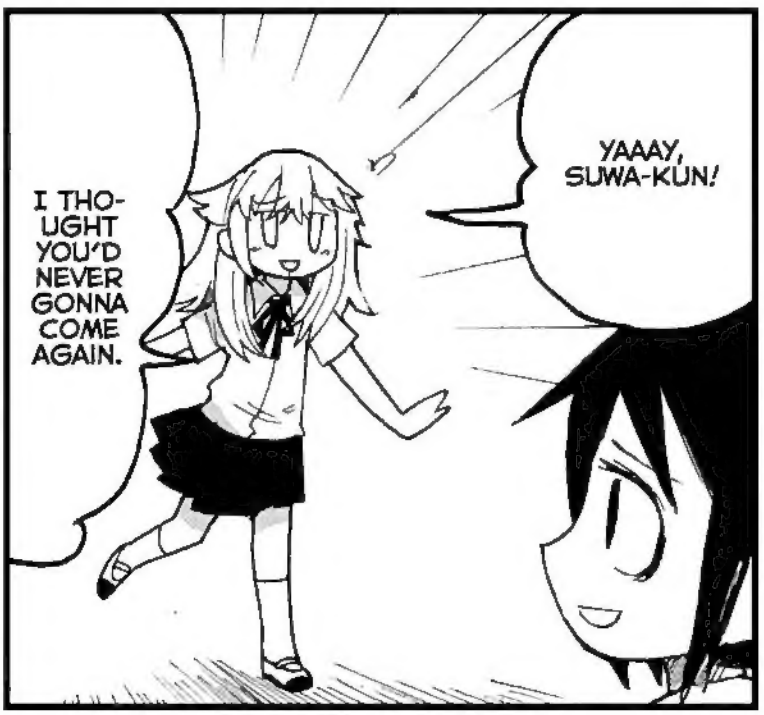
ガラ…

YOU LOOK WELL. THANK GOD.
YOUR EYES LOOK KINDA DEAD, THOUGH...
AW, YOU'RE EXAGGER-ATING.


YAAAY, SUWA-KUN!
I THO-UGHT YOU'D NEVER GONNA COME AGAIN.

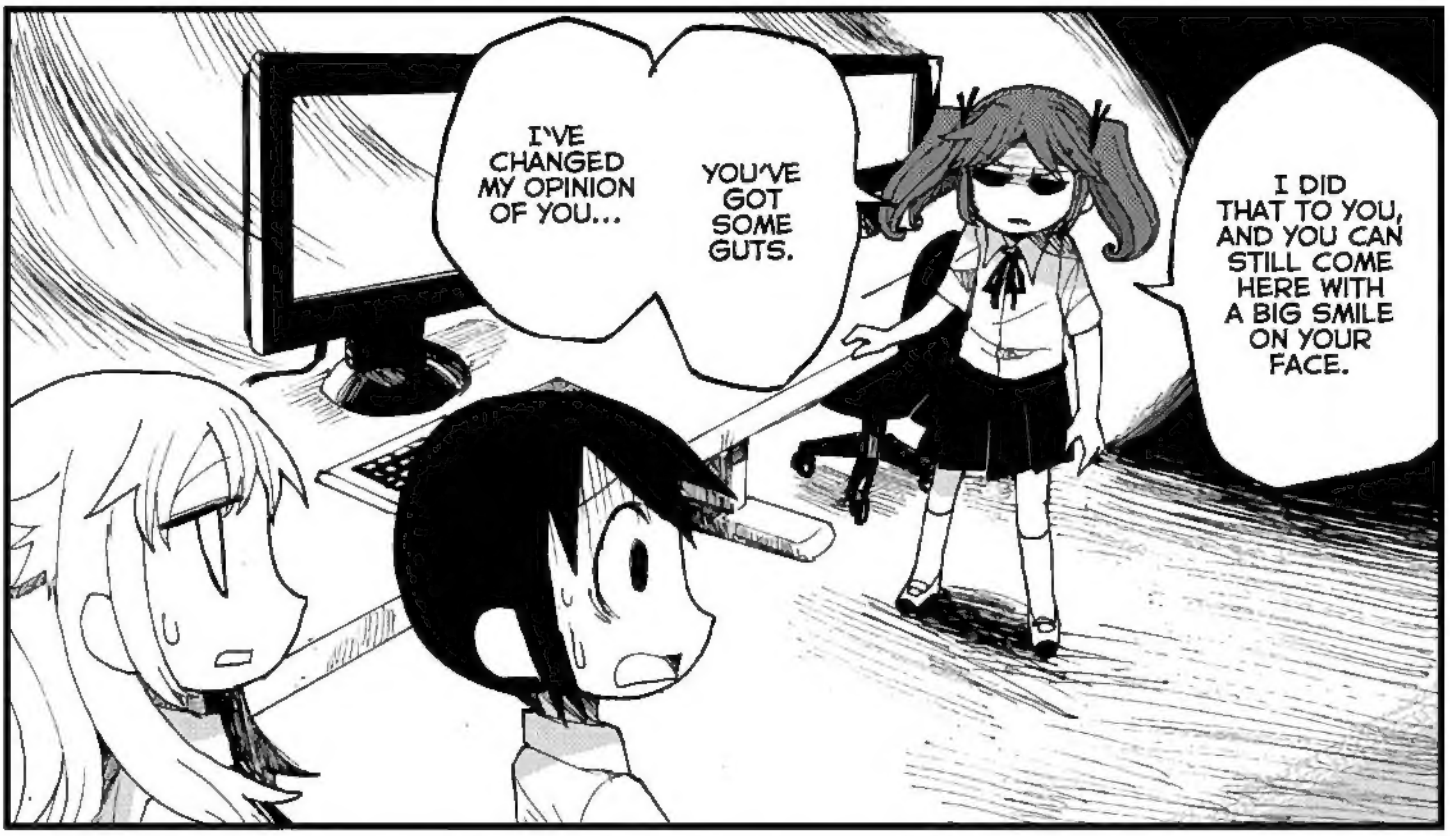
T-THAT'S NOT WHY I HAVEN'T BEEN COMING HERE!

I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU SINCE I HEARD YOU GOT INTO A FIGHT WITH MORISHITA-CHAN.

RIGHT?
MORISHITA-CHAN SAID SHE WANTED TO APOLOGIZE TOO.

I JUST FELT LIKE DOING SOMETHING YOUNG FOLKS DO AND BE ALL MELANCHOLIC FOR ONCE!

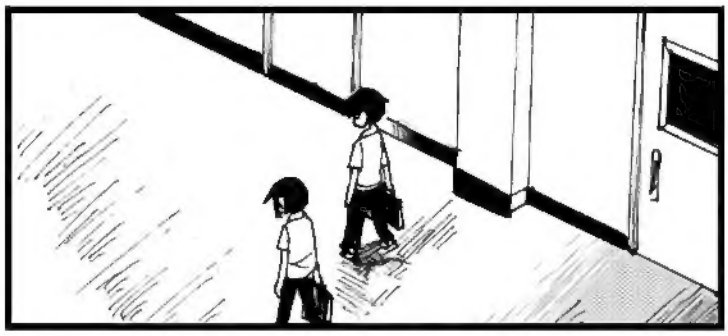
I SEE YOU'RE HERE...


I'VE CHANGED MY OPINION OF YOU...
YOU'VE GOT SOME GUTS.
I DID THAT TO YOU, AND YOU CAN STILL COME HERE WITH A BIG SMILE ON YOUR FACE.

HOLD ON A SEC, WHY ARE YOU SO SOFT ON HER...?
THAT'S PRETTY MUCH AN APOLOGY, RIGHT?

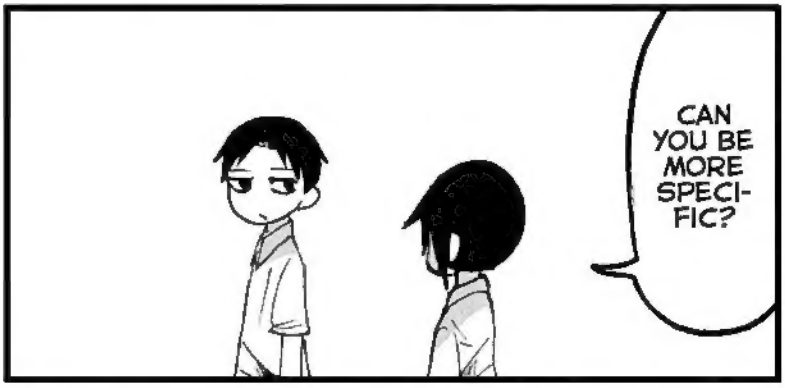
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "SEE"?
HUH ...?
...SEE?
...

SAY, WHY IS PREZ SO SOFT ON MORISHITA-SAN?



AHH...

SHE LIKES PEOPLE LIKE HER.


CAN YOU BE MORE SPECI-FIC?

...WELL, SHE LIKES WEIRDOS, BASICALLY.

WHAT WAS IT AGAIN...
...YOU'VE SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT BEFORE.

YAAY...
THAT'S WHY SHE'S REALLY KEEN ON YOU TOO...

HUH...

UHH... IS IT BECAUSE SHE THINKS I'M A WEIRDO?
WHY DO YOU THINK SHE WANTED YOU TO JOIN THE CLUB, THEN?
YEAH.

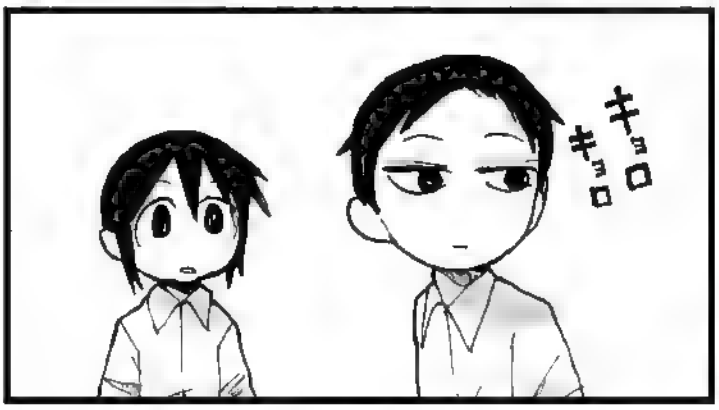
WAIT, I'M NOT A WEIRDO!

IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY...
YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT HOW SHE USED TO BE LIKE THAT TOO, RIGHT?

WHY DOES SHE LIKE WEIRDOS, THOUGH?
BEATS ME.

TELL ME MORE...
NO WAY. YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.

YEAH.
SO SHE USED TO BE LIKE MORISHITA-SAN?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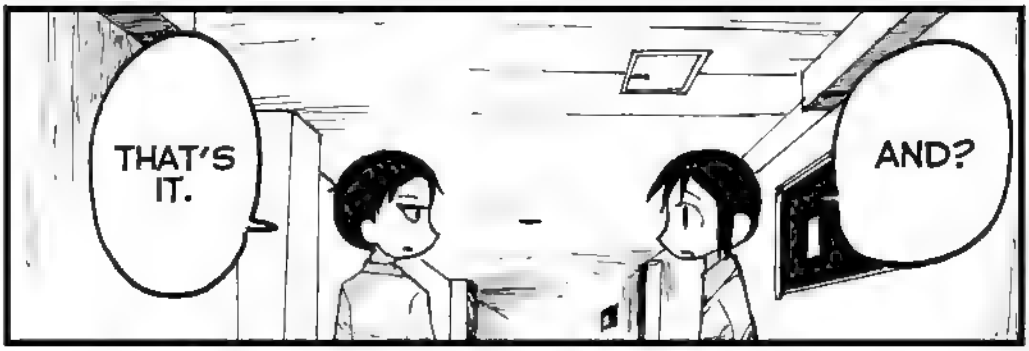
I WENT TO THE SAME MIDDLE SCHOOL AS THE PRESIDENT.

SO...

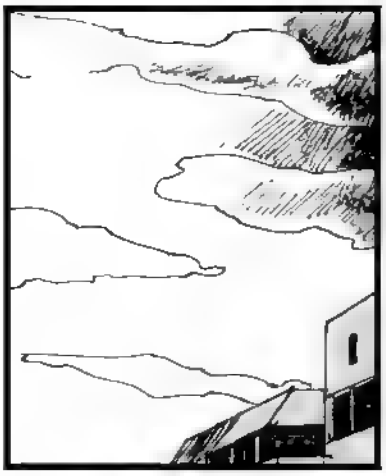

THAT'S IT.
AND?

...

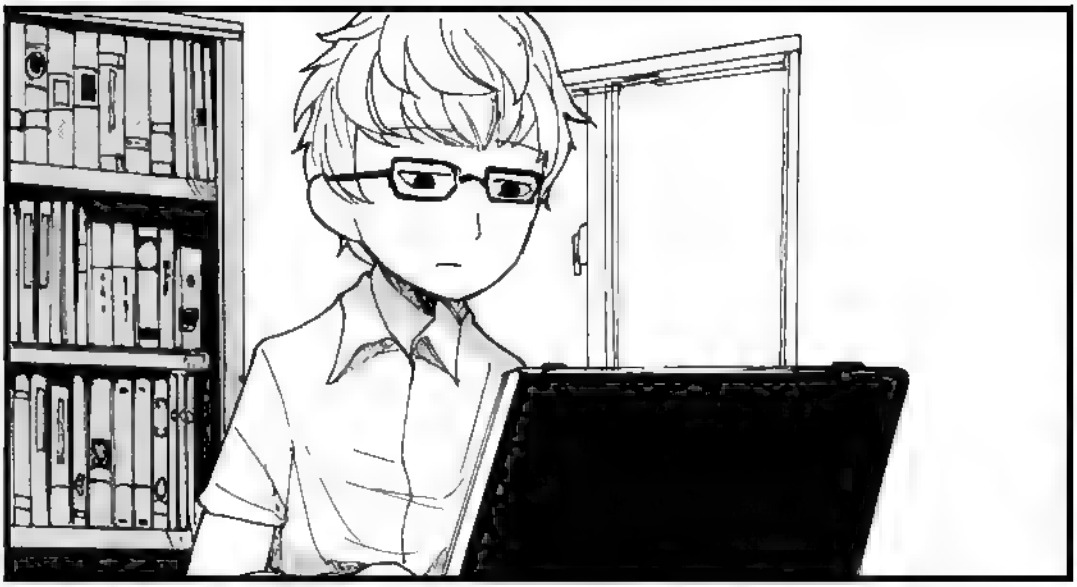
WAS SHE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON BACK THEN?
WHAT WAS SHE LIKE, SPECIFICALLY?
OH, COME ON! TELL ME MORE!

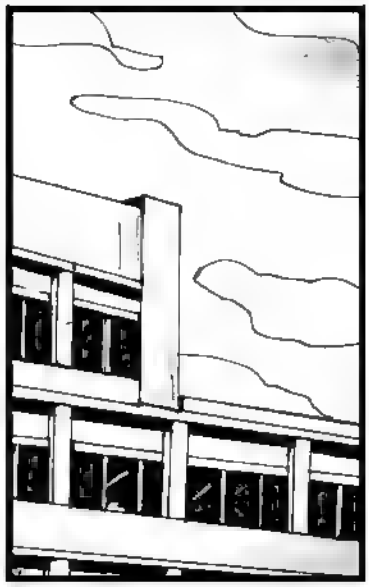
NOT REALLY?

...



SHE USED TO NOT WEAR A HAIRPIN, THOUGH...





I WANT TO RETURN THE BOOK I BORROWED.
LIFE
AH... HOW WAS IT?
IT'S INTERESTING.

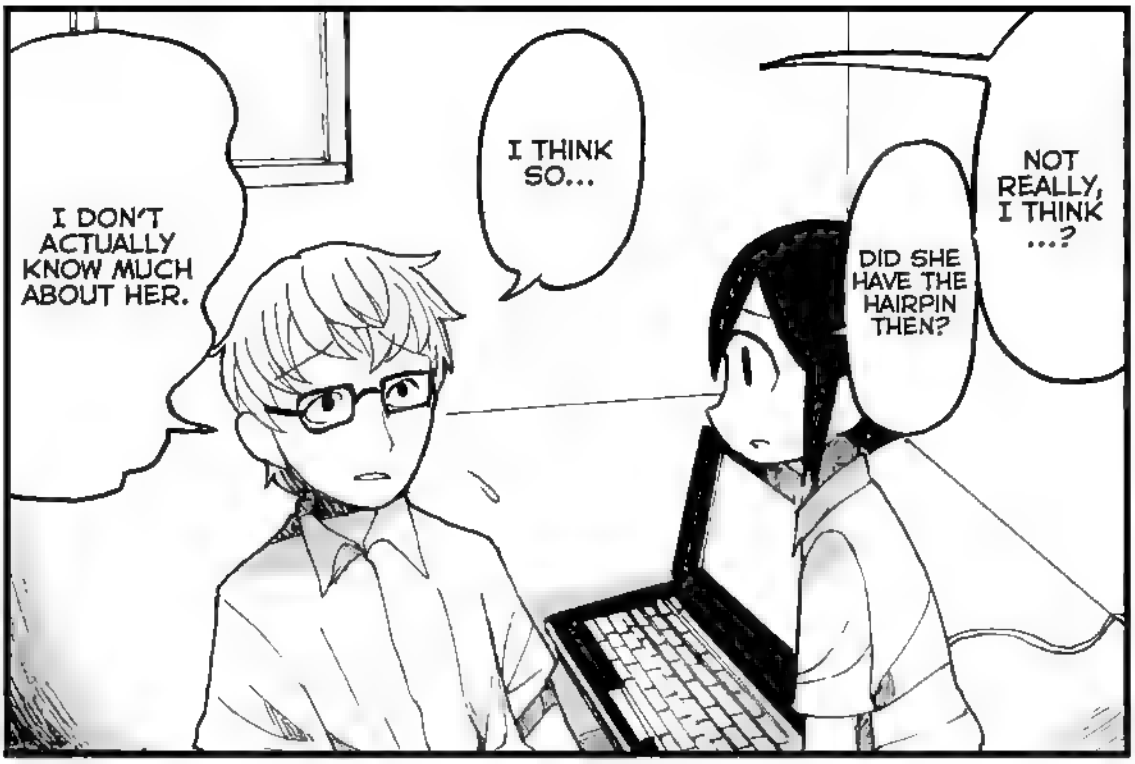
VICE PREZ.

BY THE WAY, WHAT WAS PREZ LIKE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL?
HUH?

I MADE A REALLY COOL ONE, SO GIVE IT A LOOK LATER.
AHA-HA.

I DUN-NO...
UHH.

WAS SHE TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM NOW?
WHAT ABOUT IT?

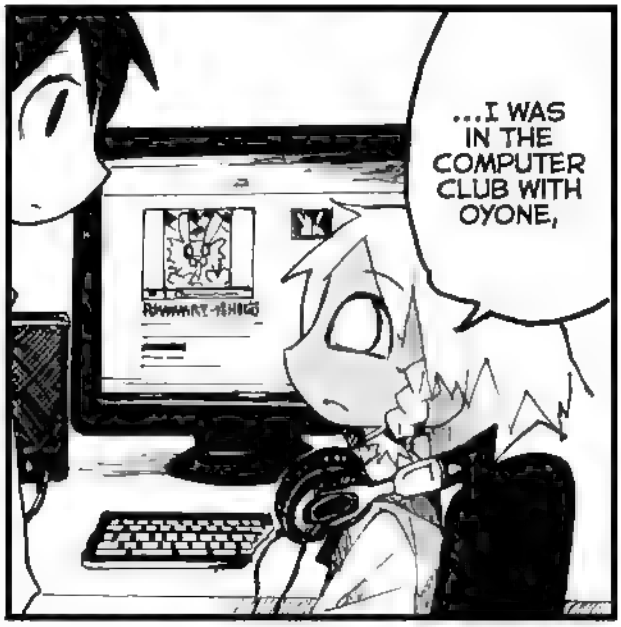

I DON'T ACTUALLY KNOW MUCH ABOUT HER.
I THINK SO...
DID SHE HAVE THE HAIRPIN THEN?
NOT REALLY, I THINK ...?

SO SHE JUST THINKS OF YOU AS HER UNDERLING, THEN?
WELL, MAY-BE ...?

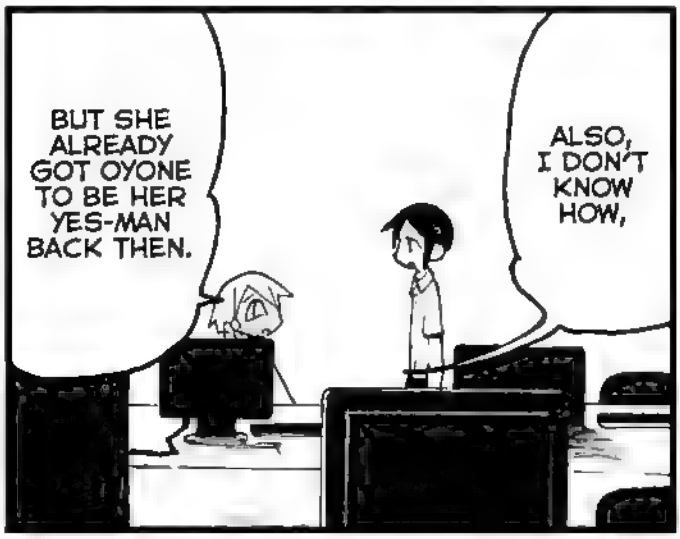
WE'VE JUST HAP-PENED TO JOIN THE GAME CLUB TOGETHER NOW...
I MEAN, WE BARELY EVER TALKED.
HUH? WHY? YOU WENT TO THE SAME SCHOOL, RIGHT?

RAWWWR!! -10HOURS
...PREZ DURING MIDDLE SCHOOL?

THEN SHE STARTED STUDYING GAMES REALLY HARD.
AND ONE DAY, SHE SUDDENLY JOINED.

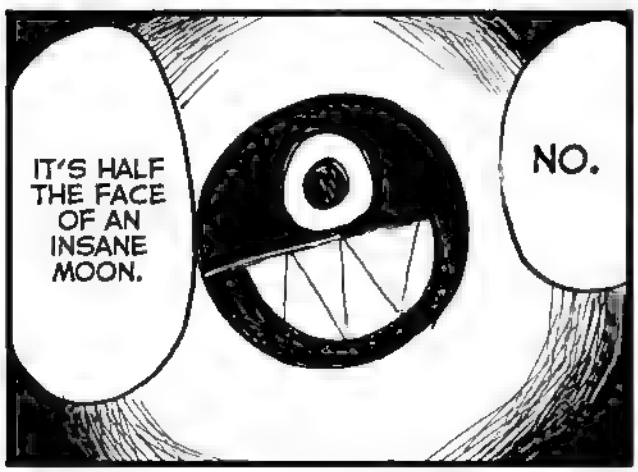

...I WAS IN THE COMPUTER CLUB WITH OYONE,

DID SHE HAVE THE HAIRPIN?


BUT SHE ALREADY GOT OYONE TO BE HER YES-MAN BACK THEN.
ALSO, I DON'T KNOW HOW,

NOT A CYCLOPS?
IT'S CALLED THE MAD-MOON.

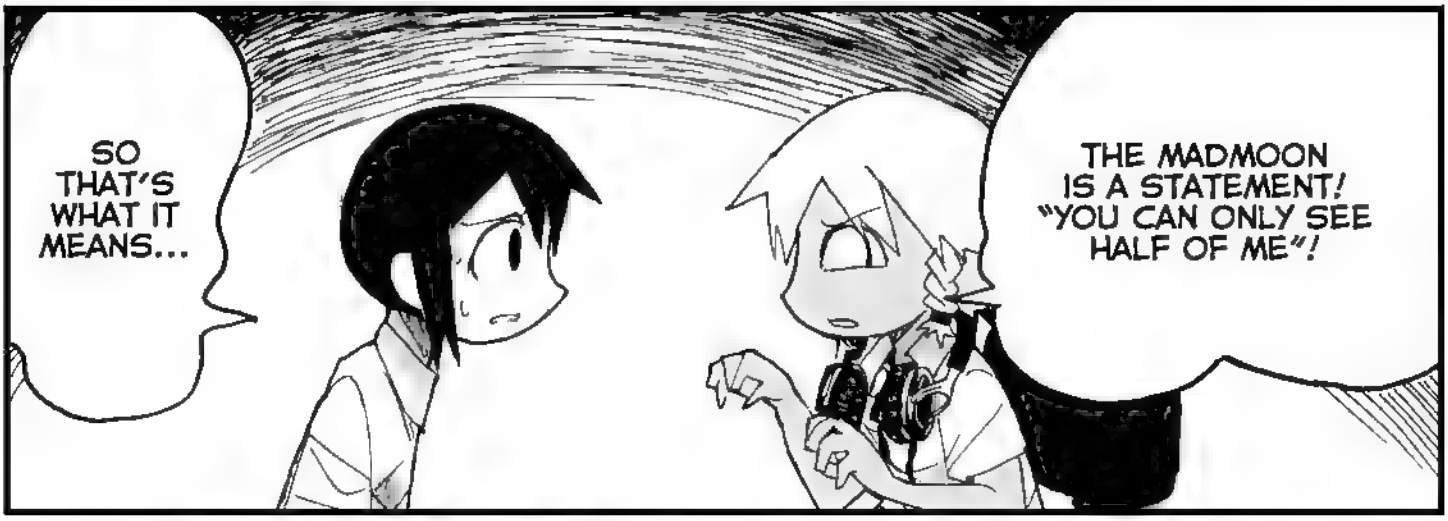
DO YOU NOT KNOW WHAT HER HAIRPIN IS?
AH...


IT'S HALF THE FACE OF AN INSANE MOON.
NO.

IT MIGHT BE ONE OF DESPAIR OR ONE OF WRATH...

THE MADMOON IS THE SAME TOO. YOU CAN NEVER TELL WHAT EXPRESSION IT HAS ON ITS FAR SIDE.

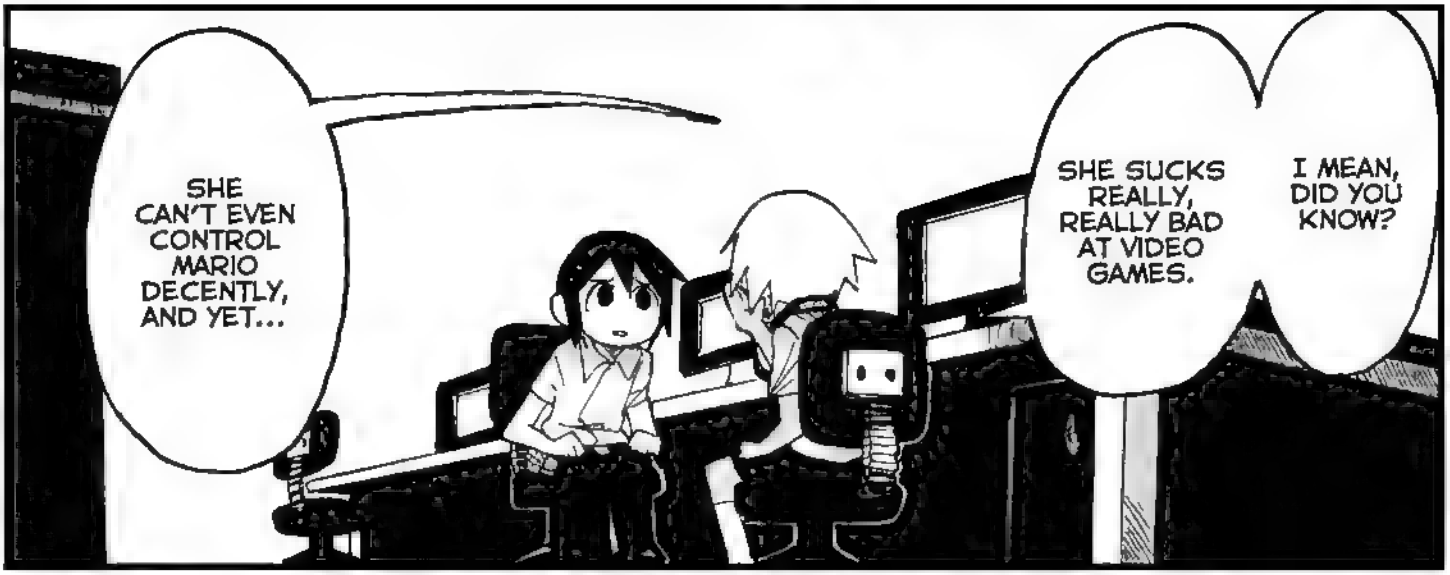
YOU CAN NEVER SEE ITS FAR SIDE FROM EARTH.
THE MOON IS TIDALLY LOCKED.


SO THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS...
THE MADMOON IS A STATEMENT! "YOU CAN ONLY SEE HALF OF ME"!

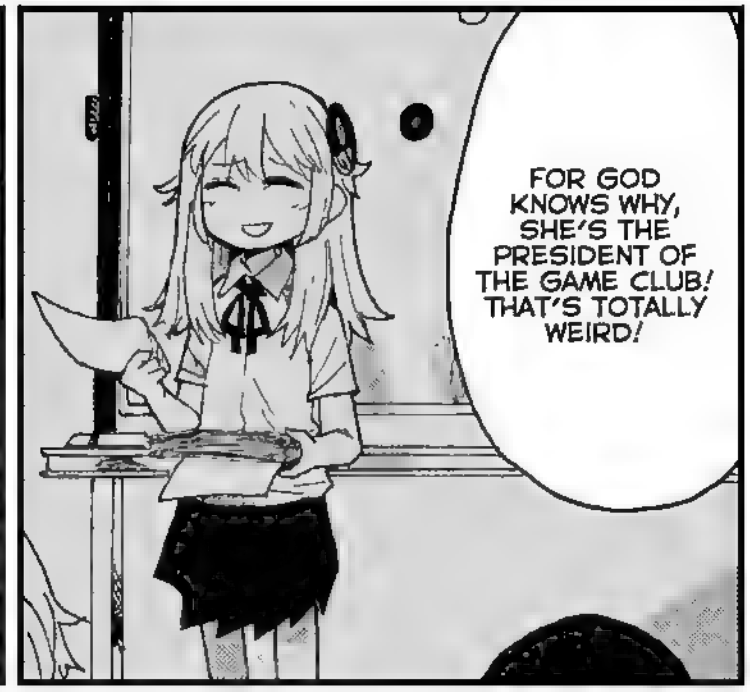
THERE'S NO WAY SHE'S SANE!
BUT SHE PROBABLY DOES!

DOES SHE ACTUALLY HAVE A DARK SECRET...?

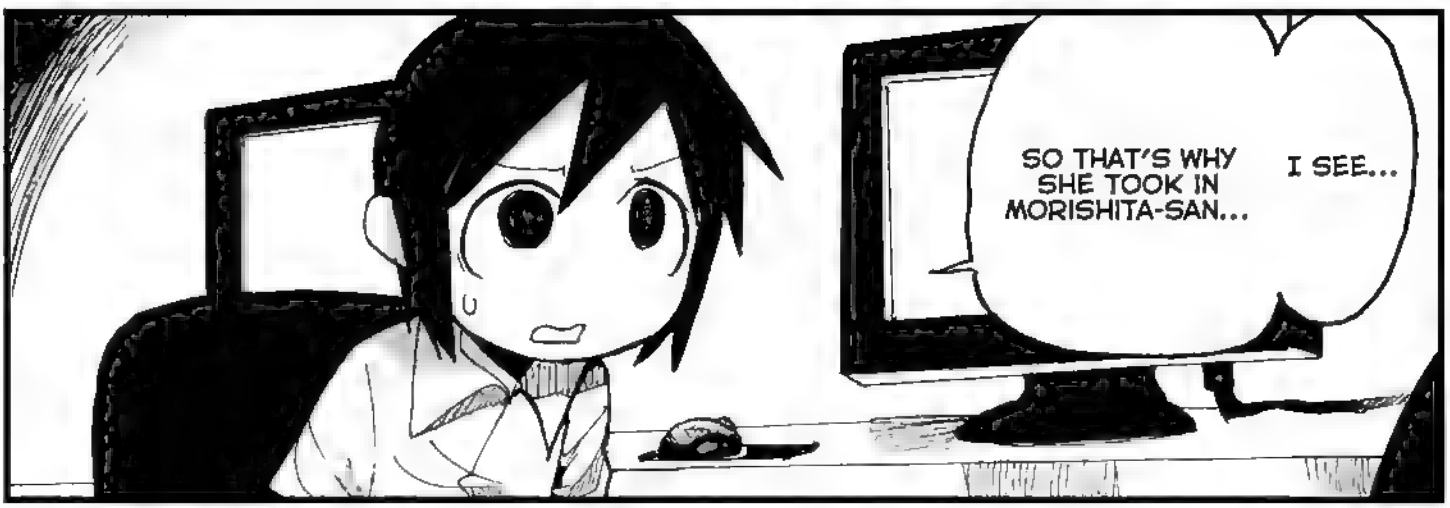
I DON'T KNOW.


SHE CAN'T EVEN CONTROL MARIO DECENTLY, AND YET...
SHE SUCKS REALLY, REALLY BAD AT VIDEO GAMES.
I MEAN, DID YOU KNOW?

N-NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
THIS IS JUST MY GUESS, BUT...


FOR GOD KNOWS WHY, SHE'S THE PRESIDENT OF THE GAME CLUB! THAT'S TOTALLY WEIRD!

AND TAKE VENGEANCE UPON MANKIND!
THAT MAKES ITS PLAYERS WANT TO COMMIT SUICIDE OR MURDER...
I BET SHE'S TRYING TO DEVELOP A GAME

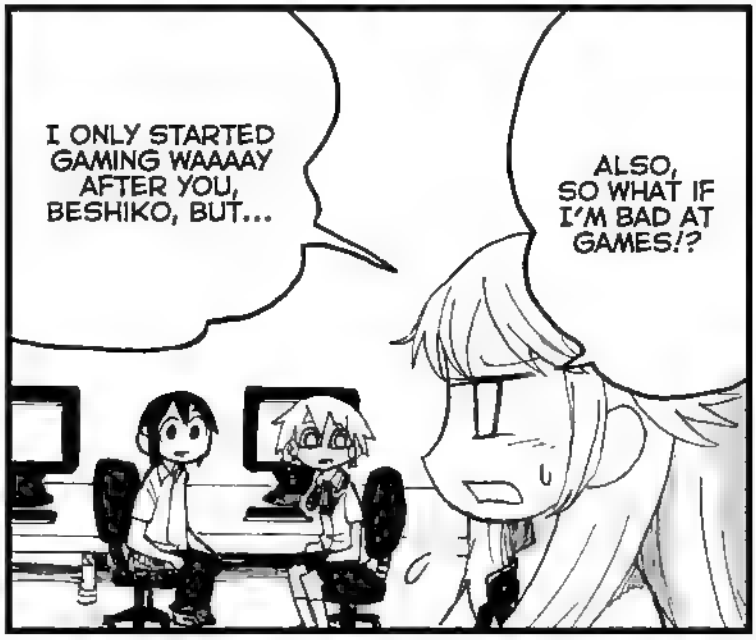

SO THAT'S WHY SHE TOOK IN MORISHITA-SAN...
I SEE...

I CAN HEAR YOU!
HEY!

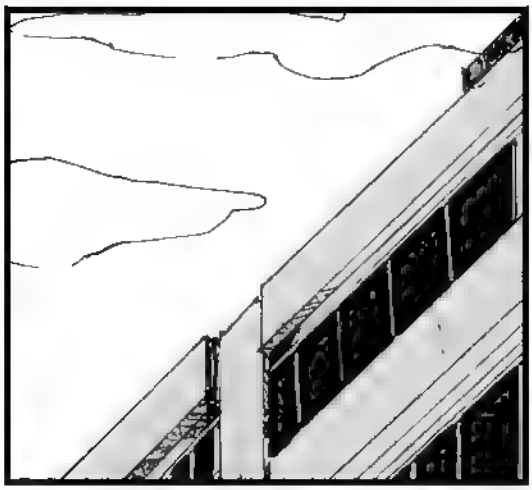
I LIKED THAT GAME, SO...
IT'S FROM KNIGHT OF MADNESS...

THIS IS JUST A NORMAL HAIRPIN I BOUGHT
WHEN I WENT TO AN EVENT!
DON'T JUST RUN OFF YOUR MOUTH LIKE THAT.

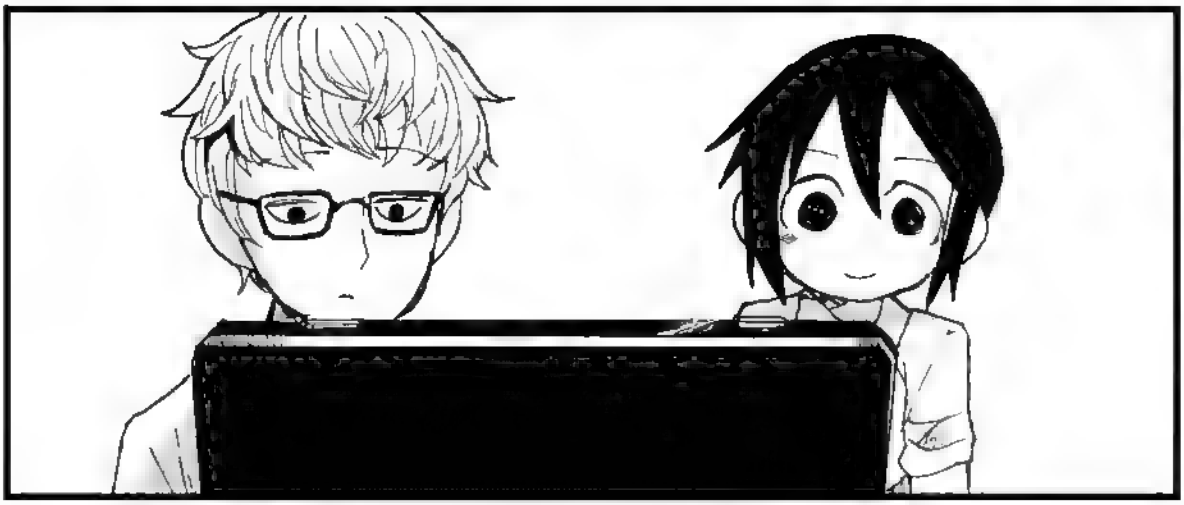
BESHIKO (6)

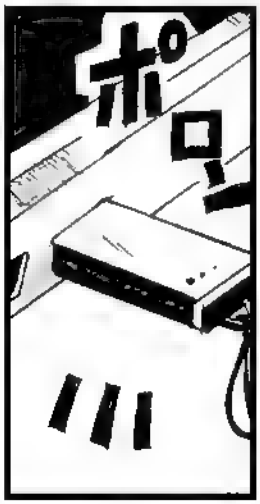

I ONLY STARTED GAMING WAAAAY AFTER YOU, BESHIKO, BUT...
ALSO, SO WHAT IF I'M BAD AT GAMES!?

VICE PREZ!



AH, SURE, SHOW ME.
I BROUGHT THE THING I WANTED TO SHOW YOU...

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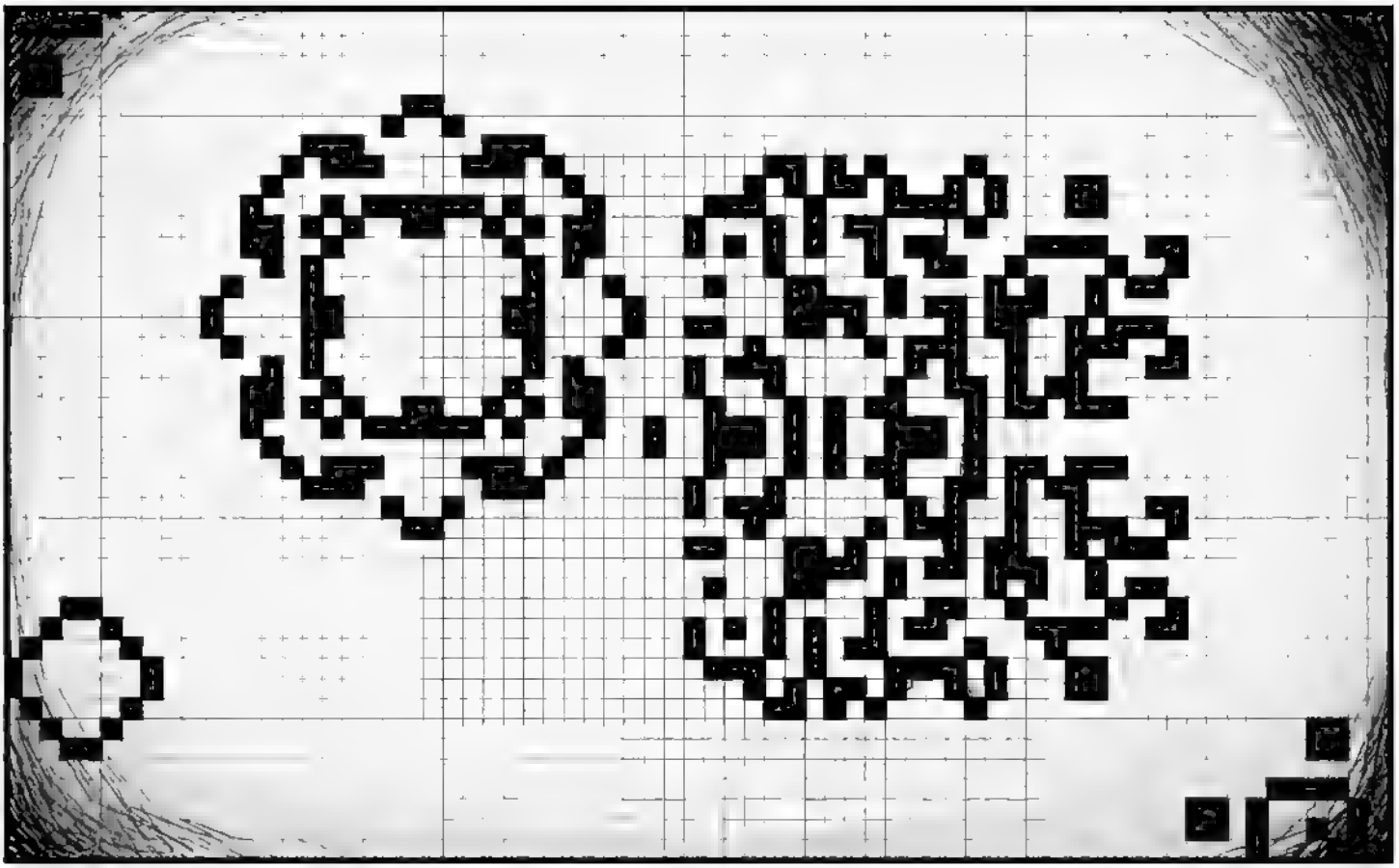
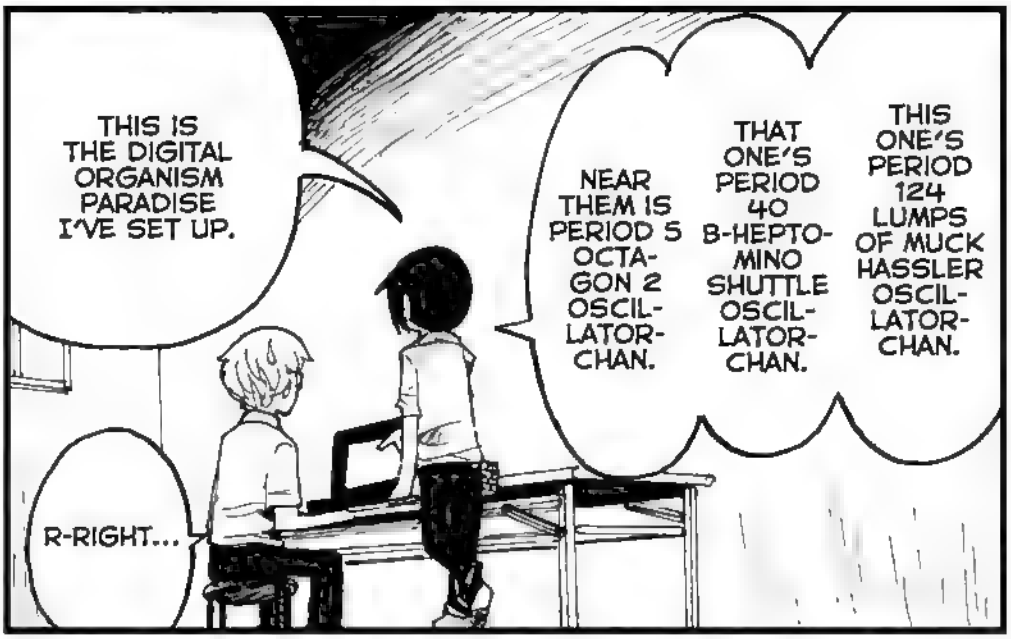
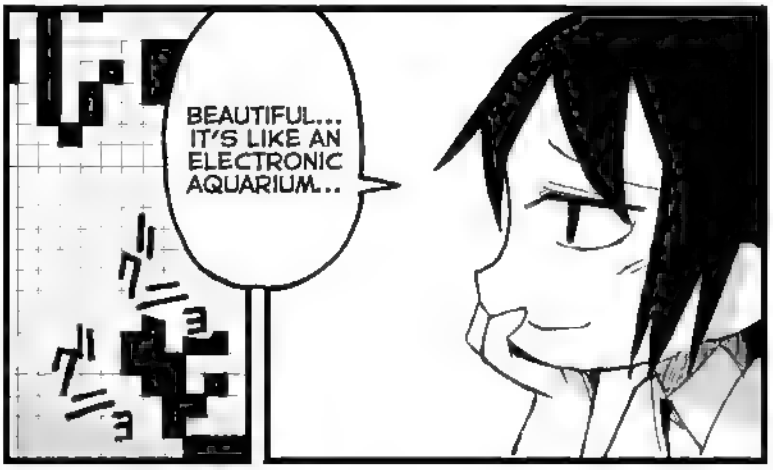
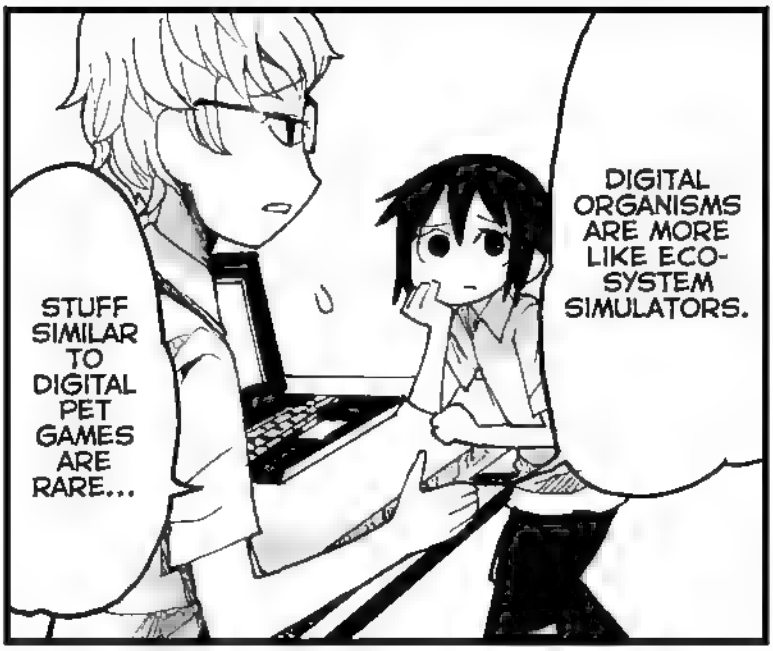



THIS IS THE DIGITAL ORGANISM PARADISE I'VE SET UP.
R-RIGHT...
NEAR THEM IS PERIOD 5 OCTAGON 2 OSCILLATOR-CHAN.
THAT ONE'S PERIOD 40 B-HEPTOMINO SHUTTLE OSCILLATOR-CHAN.
THIS ONE'S PERIOD 124 LUMPS OF MUCK HASSLER OSCILLATOR-CHAN.

IT'S SO CALMING...

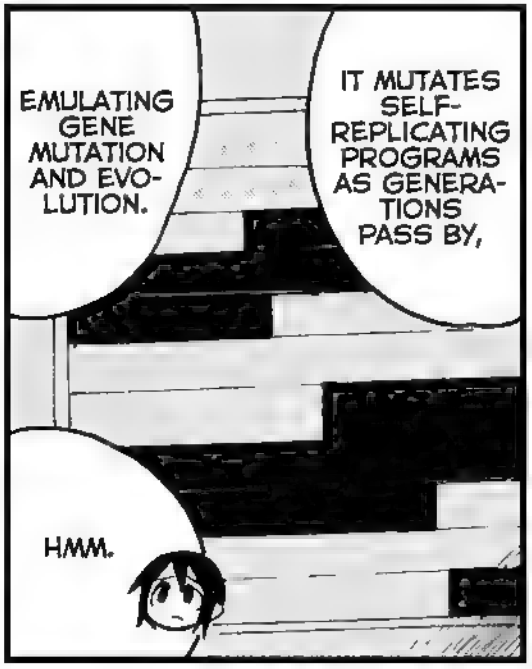

BEAUTIFUL... IT'S LIKE AN ELECTRONIC AQUARIUM...


STUFF SIMILAR TO DIGITAL PET GAMES ARE RARE...
DIGITAL ORGANISMS ARE MORE LIKE ECO-SYSTEM SIMULATORS.

THERE ARE SOME, BUT...
ARE THERE ANY OTHER DIGITAL ORGANISMS LIKE THIS?

IT CAN SIMULATE THE NATURAL SELECTION AND EVOLUTION OF PROGRAMS IN IT.
THAT'S *TIERRA*...
WHAT'S THE DIGITAL ORGANISM YOU PLAYED BEFORE?

I GUESS YOU CAN CALL IT CUTE, BUT...
HUH?
IS IT *CUTE?*


EMULATING GENE MUTATION AND EVO-LUTION.
IT MUTATES SELF-REPLICATING PROGRAMS AS GENERA-TIONS PASS BY,
HMM.

I SEE...
YOU ALSO FEEL THAT IT'S KIND OF GOING TOWARDS CERTAIN EXTINCTION SOMETIMES...
TIERRA DOESN'T REALLY INVOLVE MUCH MOVEMENT.

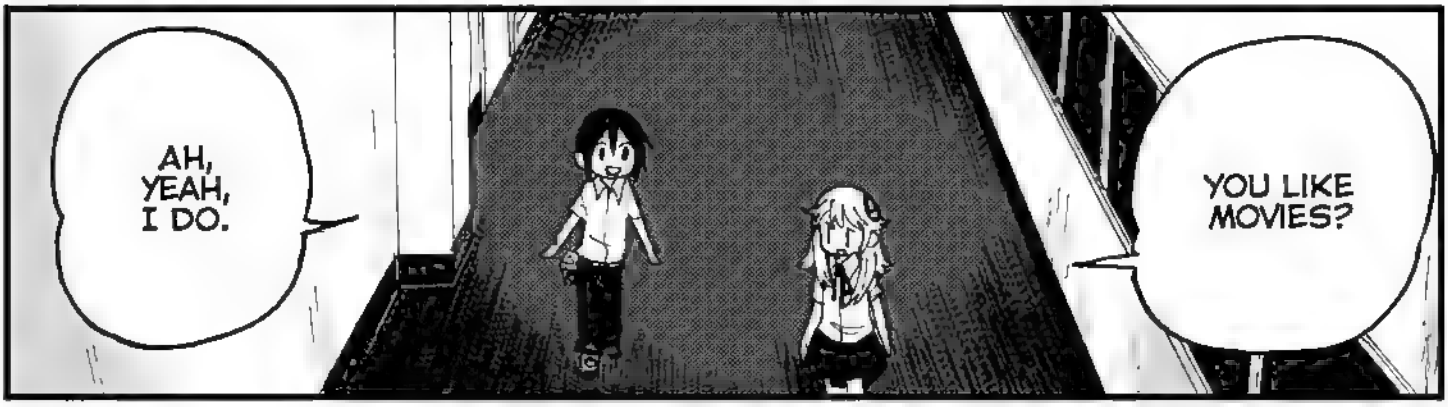
THERE'S QUITE A BIT OF STUFF THAT FALLS UNDER THE DIGITAL ORGANISM UMBRELLA OUT THERE.
YEAH... NO NEED TO BE SO DOWN, THOUGH.

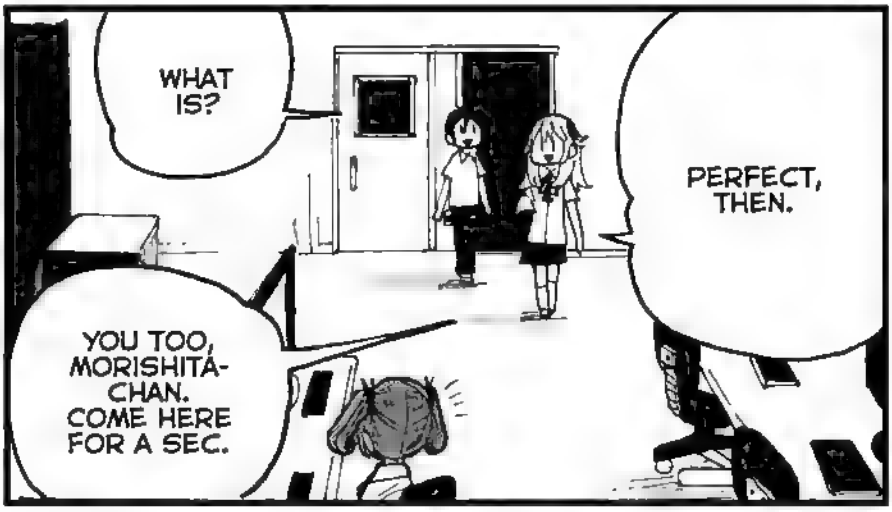
BUT WELL, I MIGHT HAVE FELT LIKE THAT WHEN PLAYING GAME OF LIFE TOO...

YAAAY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I'LL SEARCH AROUND LATER.
WE MIGHT FIND ONE THAT'S MORE LIKE A DIGITAL PET GAME IF WE LOOK FOR IT.

YAAAY! NICE STUFF!

THERE YOU ARE.
I'VE GOT SOMETHING NICE FOR YOU, SUWA-KUN. MIND COMING WITH ME?


YOU LIKE MOVIES?
AH, YEAH, I DO.


PERFECT, THEN.
WHAT IS?
YOU TOO, MORISHITA-CHAN. COME HERE FOR A SEC.

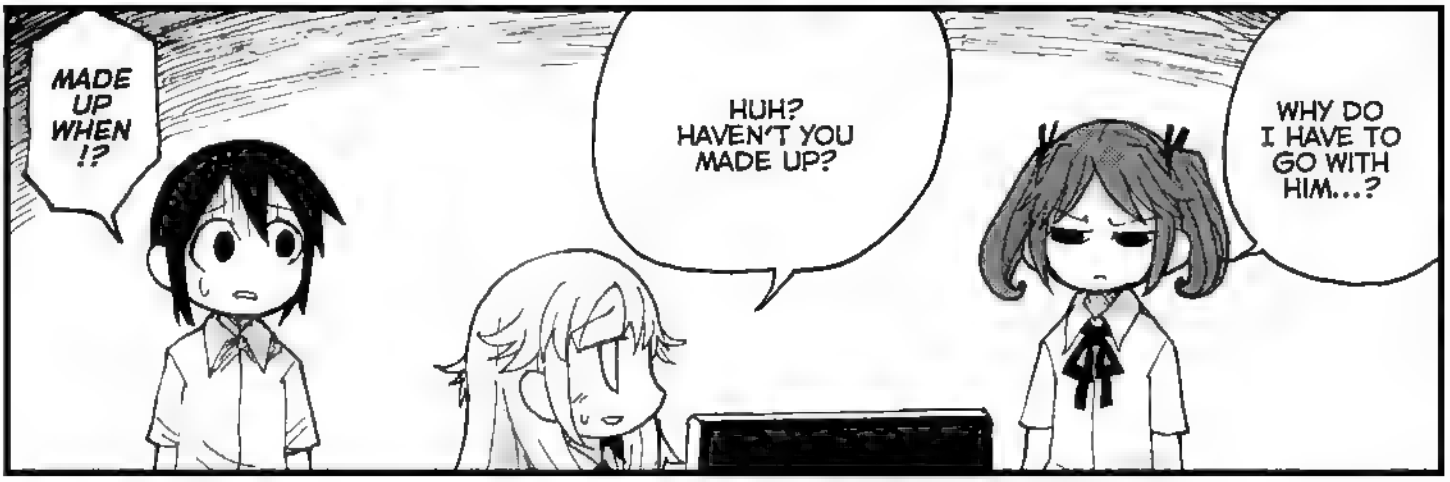
WANT TO GO SEE ONE?
OF COURSE!

WANT TO GO SEE THIS?

LAST LEGACY

HOW ABOUT YOU GO SEE IT TOGETHER?
IT MIGHT BE A GOOD REFERENCE FOR OUR NEXT GAME, RIGHT?

LOOKS INTERESTING.
IT'S PLAYING RIGHT NOW.
APPARENTLY, IT'S A POST-APOCALYPTIC STORY.


MADE UP WHEN !?
HUH? HAVEN'T YOU MADE UP?
WHY DO I HAVE TO GO WITH HIM...?

A DATE !?

IT'S A DATE...
NOW NOW. MAKE UP AND GO SEE IT TOGETHER. LET'S DO THE ADULT THING, OKAY?

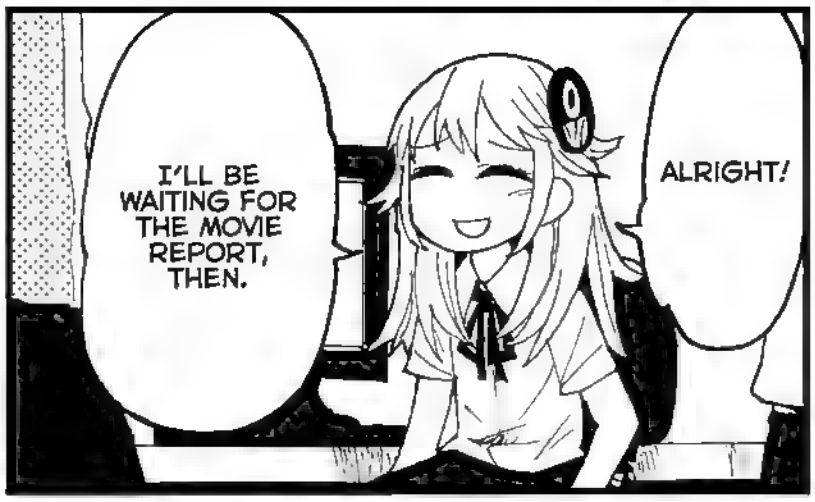
WE SHOULD JUST RENT A SIMILAR MOVIE AND WATCH IT HERE...
IT WOULDN'T BE LIKE A DATE THEN...

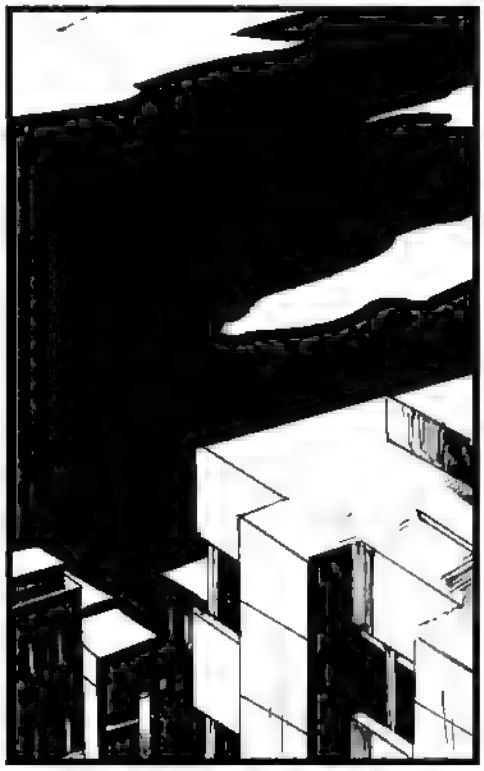
DON'T FORGET THAT!
WHOOPS, THAT CAME OUT WRONG. FORGOT THE "NOT" THERE...
THAT'S THE COM-PLETE OPPO-SITE!

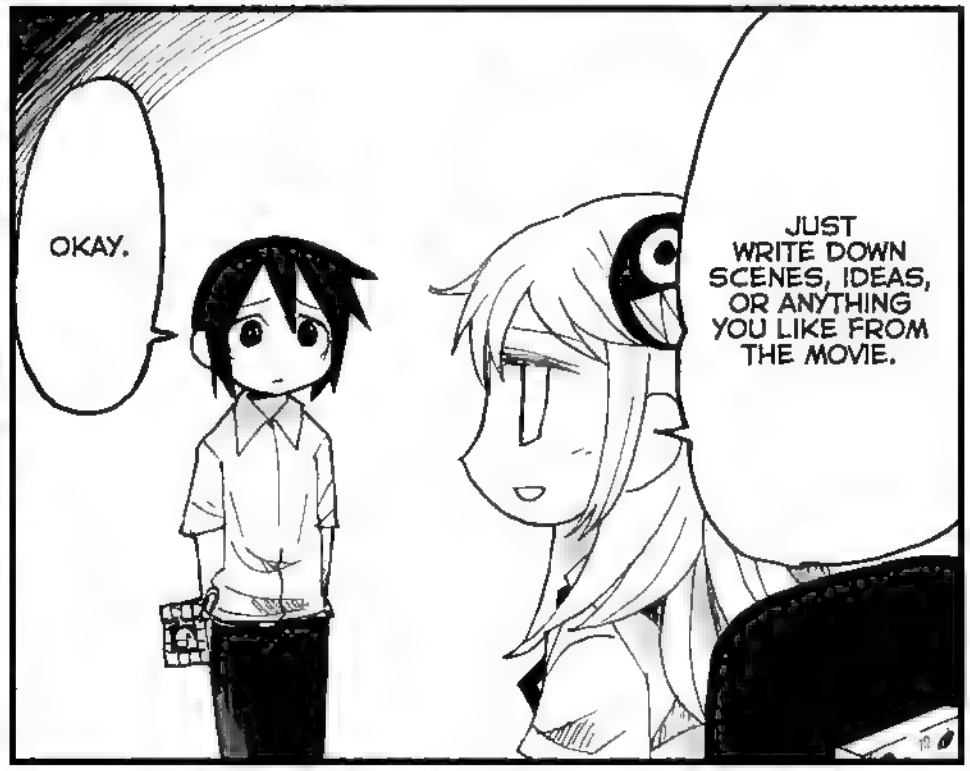
...
THERE'S NO REASON TO REFUSE, RIGHT?
LOOK, I'LL GIVE YOU SOME FUNDS FOR LUNCH AND STUFF...

IF THE CLUB'S PAYING FOR OUR LUNCH, THEN SURE.
I'LL GO TOO.

I'LL BE AN ADULT ABOUT THIS...
OF COURSE. I'LL GO.


I'LL BE WAITING FOR THE MOVIE REPORT, THEN.
ALRIGHT!




OKAY.
JUST WRITE DOWN SCENES, IDEAS, OR ANYTHING YOU LIKE FROM THE MOVIE.

HEY, WILL THEY REALLY BE FINE?

HUH...? YEAH.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE THEM TO GET ALONG SO MUCH...

IT MIGHT ALSO GO WELL, RIGHT?

I'VE ALREADY SAID THAT THEY'RE THE LEADS FOR OUR NEXT GAME TOO...

THEY MIGHT END UP HAVING A BIG FIGHT AND JUST GO HOME, YOU KNOW?

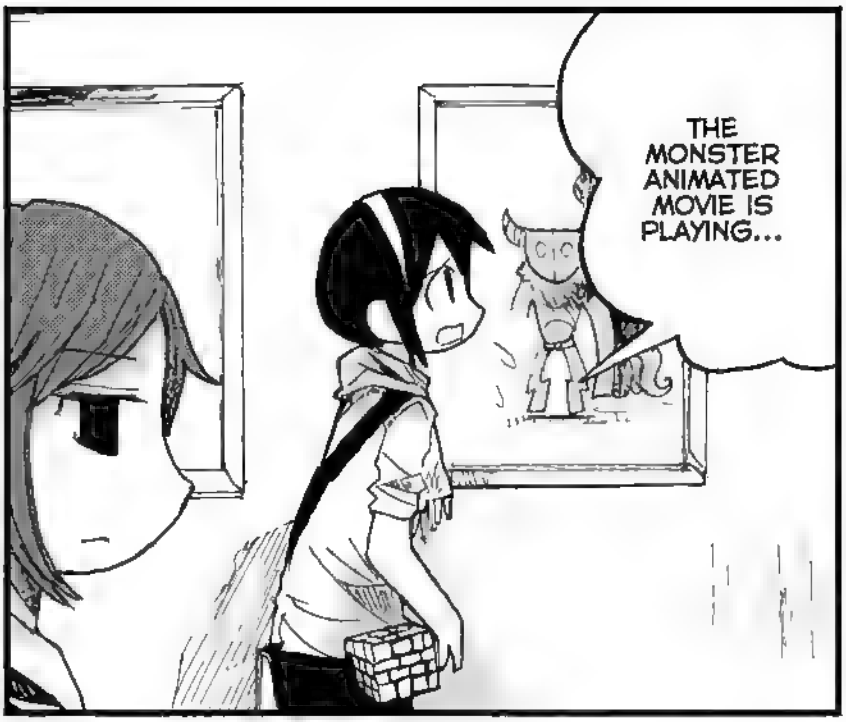
STILL...

GEEZ... PREZ...

NO NO, WE DON'T KNOW YET. WE GOTTA GIVE IT A SHOT...

...

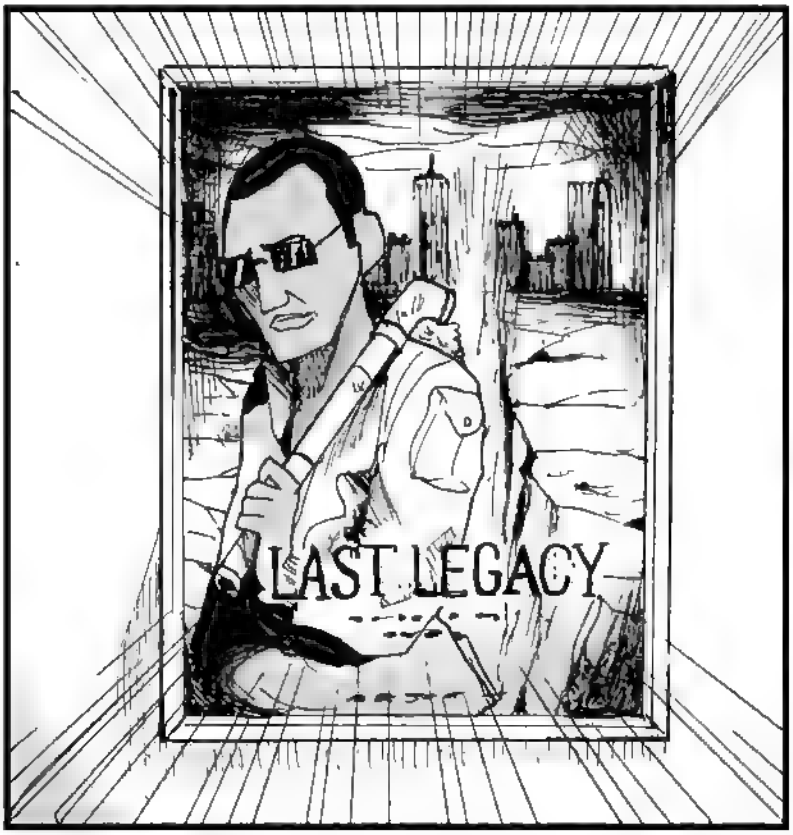
BUT YEAH, I MIGHT HAVE SCREWED THIS UP...


THE MONSTER ANIMATED MOVIE IS PLAYING...

AHH!
MONSTER CRUSADERS

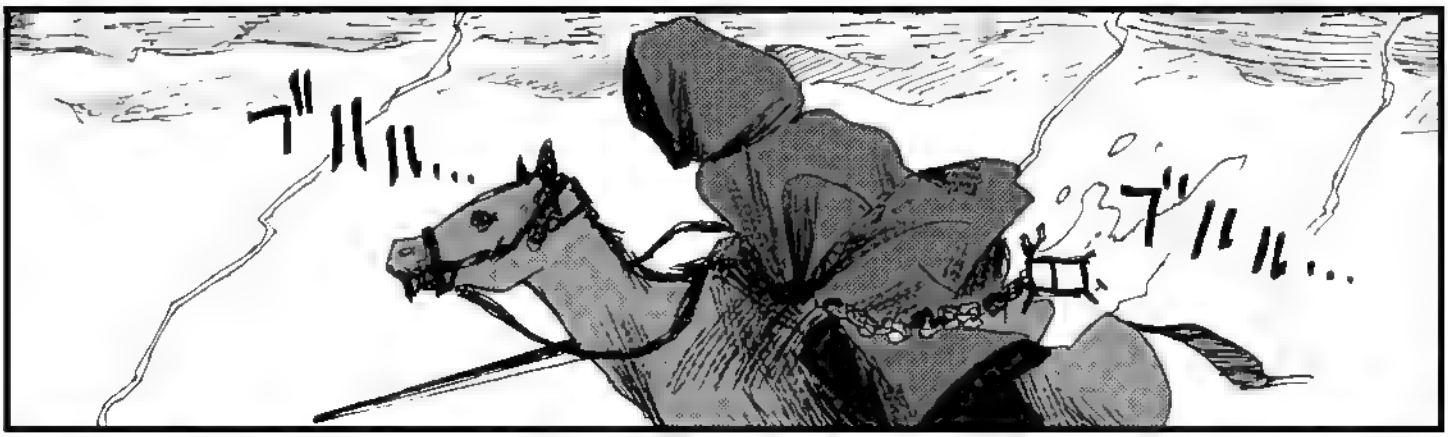
NO.

I'D RATHER WATCH THIS...


LAST LEGACY

IS THAT.
WHAT WE'RE WATCHING TODAY

WE MIGHT GET TO SEE SOMETHING MORE DESPICABLE THAN MONSTERS, YOU KNOW.
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN SAYING?
I DON'T WANNA WATCH A MOVIE ABOUT SOME DUDE WITH SUNGLASSES...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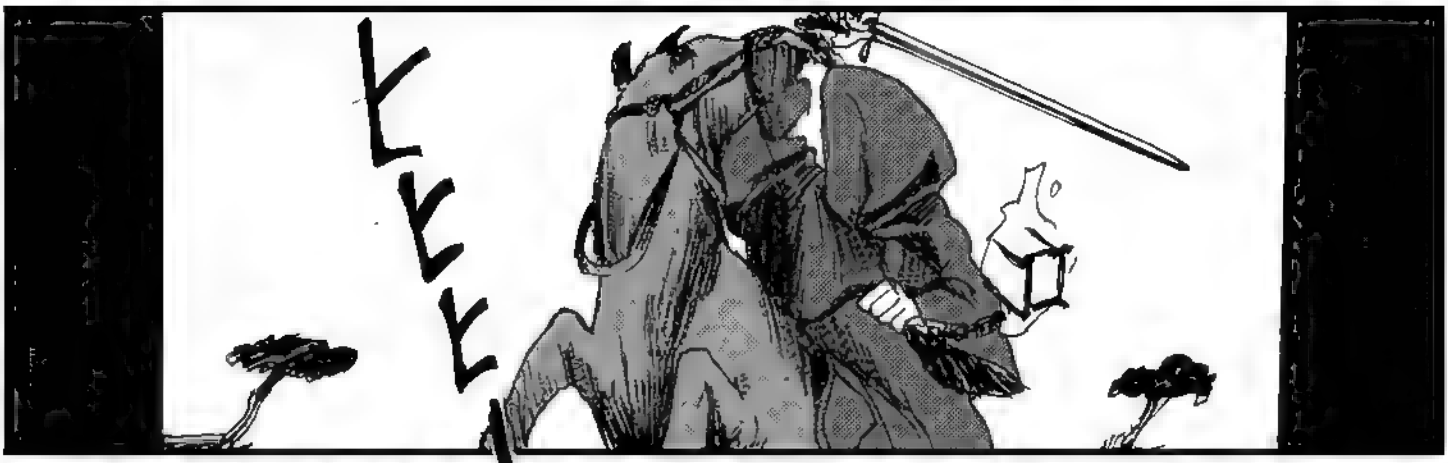
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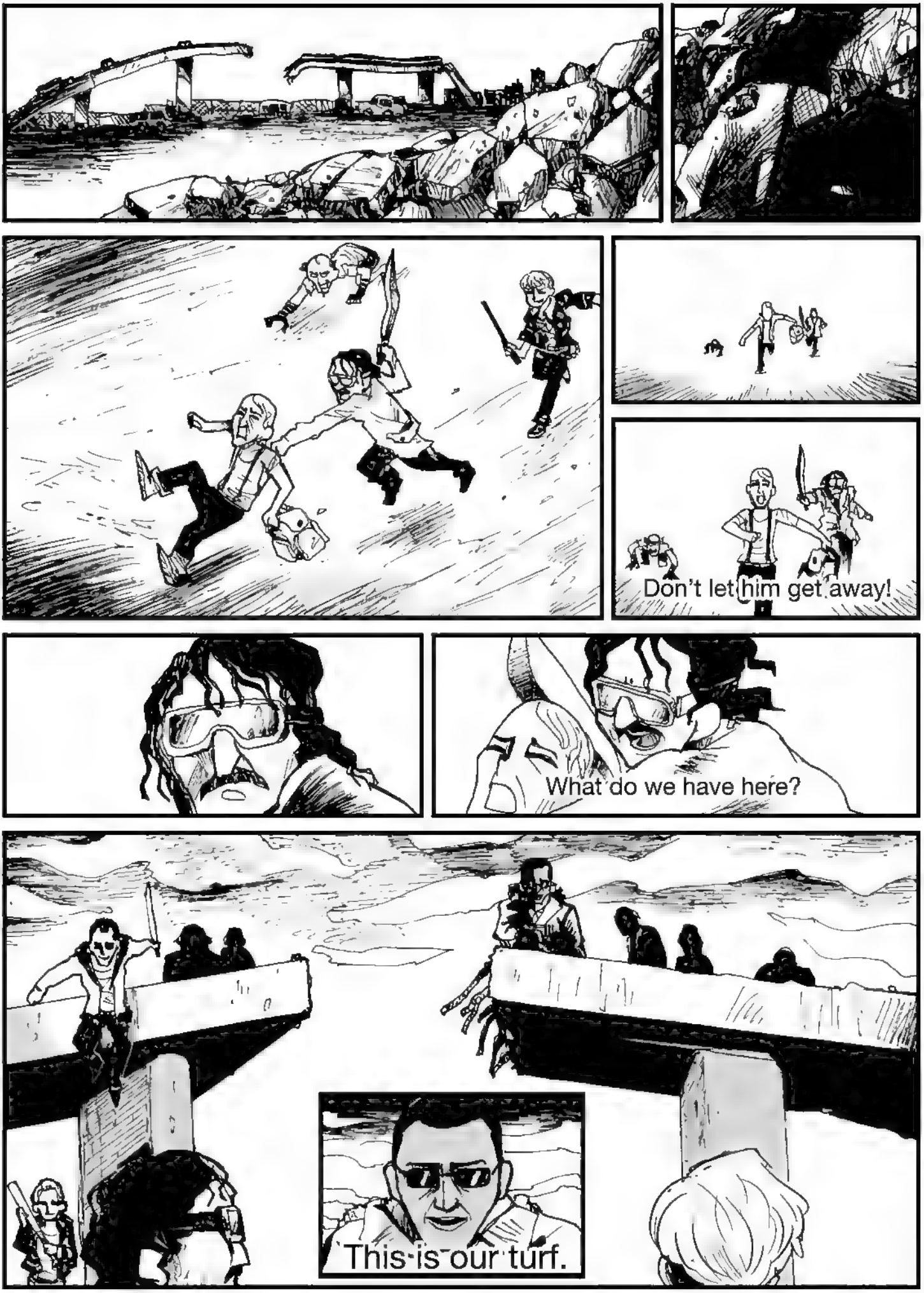
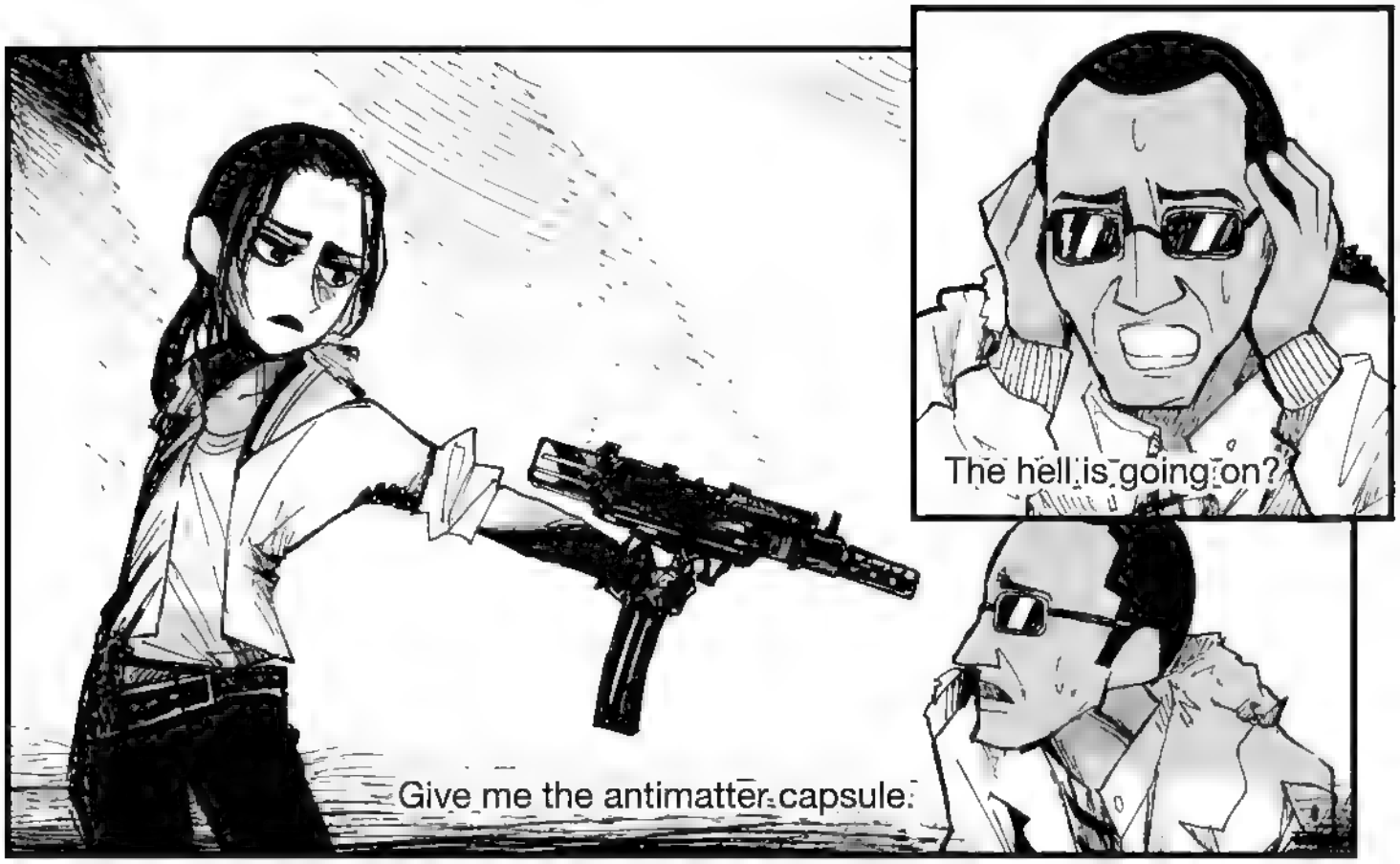
HORSEMANFILM

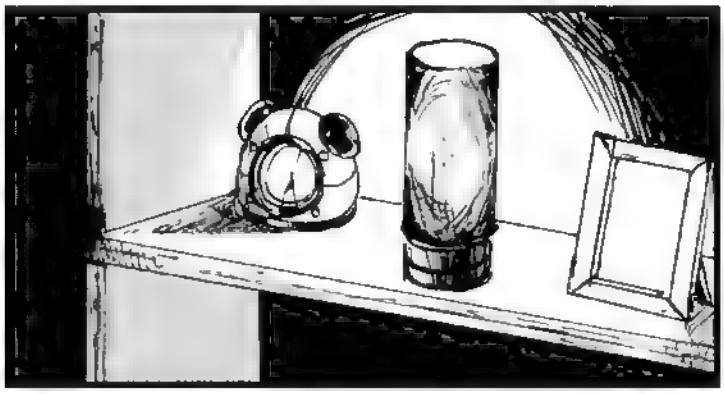

Don't let him get away!
What do we have here?
This is our turf.

The hell is this?

Guess I'll use it as room decoration.


The hell is going on?
Give me the antimatter capsule.

It's useless in the hands of you troglodytes.



HUFF
HUFF

ミシャッ

I have a mission.

It's not a lamp.

How long are you planning to stare at that thing, Boss?
The Accelerator...
I'll destroy it.

I can't.
I won't let mankind repeat its mistake...
and purpose to everything.
There must a proper way to use
how people die for no reason.
It had always struck me as absurd...
People too...
But I understand now, after encountering this capsule.

The Accelerator is mankind's "last legacy".
I'll definitely activate it.
ミシ
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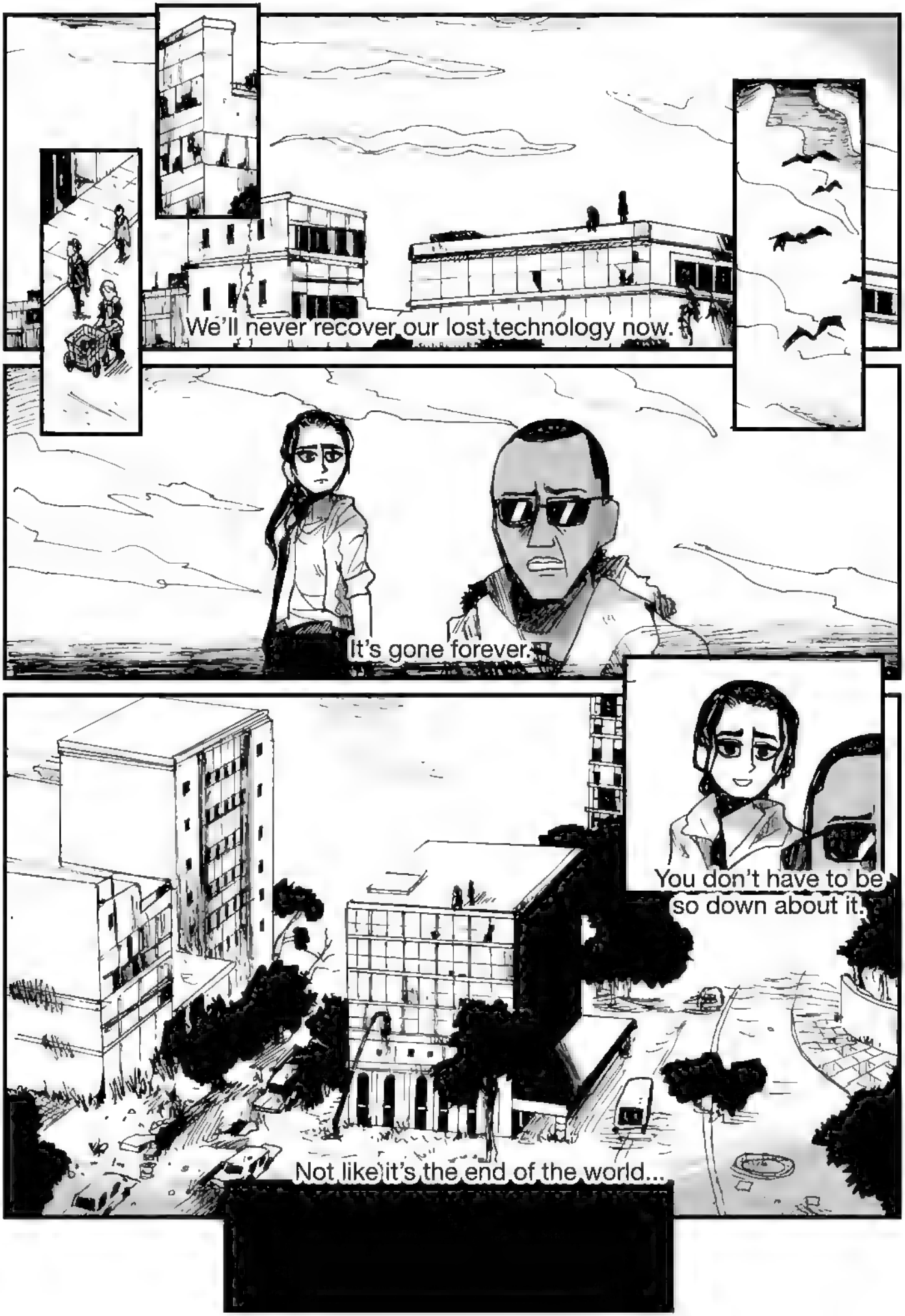
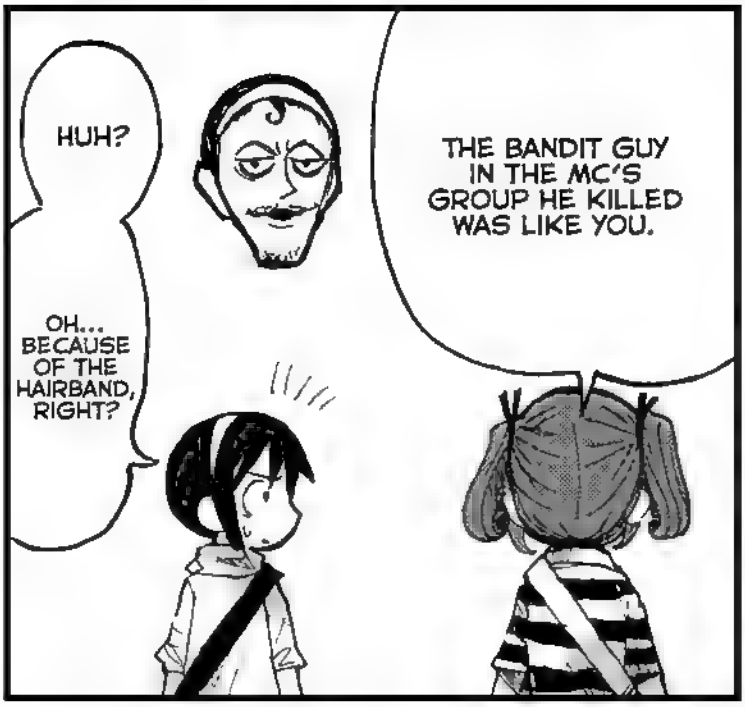
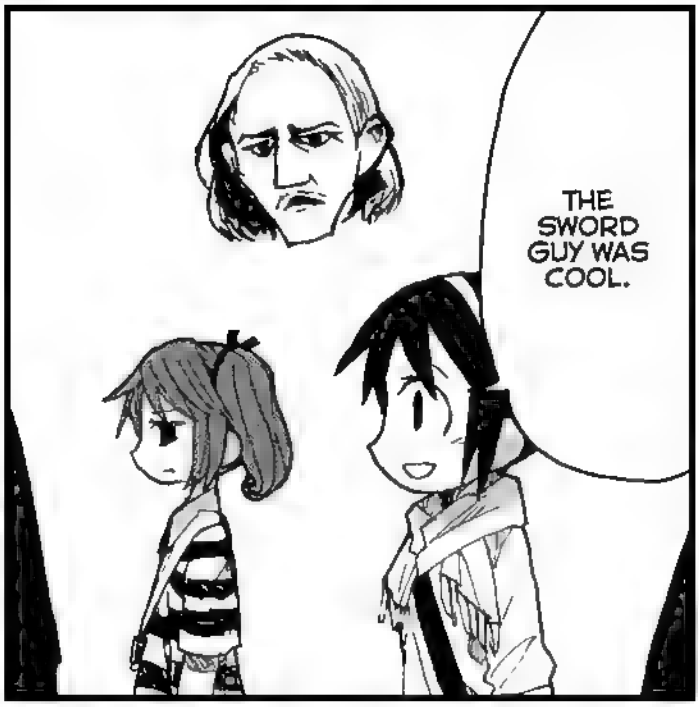
Mankind's ten thousand years of hard work is now wasted!
Because of you...
ボオオオオオン


We'll never recover our lost technology now.
It's gone forever.
You don't have to be so down about it.
Not like it's the end of the world...

IT'S DECENT.
WELL?

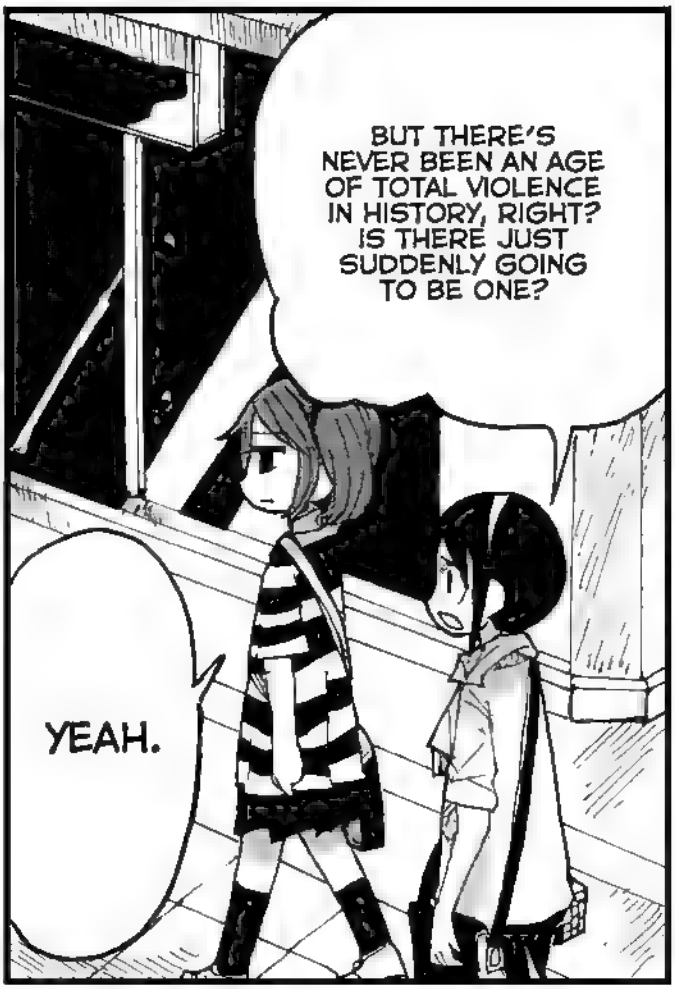

HUH?
OH... BECAUSE OF THE HAIRBAND, RIGHT?
THE BANDIT GUY IN THE MC'S GROUP HE KILLED WAS LIKE YOU.


THE SWORD GUY WAS COOL.

I MEAN, EVERYONE JUST WENT AHEAD AND OPPRESS SOCIALLY VULNERABLE PEOPLE AT THE DROP OF A HAT.
NO, IT DIDN'T.

BUT IT MADE SENSE.

AND TURN EVERYONE INTO BANDITS...
NO WAY AN APOCALYPTIC WAR WOULD *INSTANTLY* SEND PUBLIC ORDER DOWN THE DRAIN
THE SETTING DIDN'T MAKE SENSE, THOUGH.


BUT THERE'S NEVER BEEN AN AGE OF TOTAL VIOLENCE IN HISTORY, RIGHT? IS THERE JUST SUDDENLY GOING TO BE ONE?
YEAH.

STILL, IT'S GOING TO BE LIKE THAT.

THERE ARE PEOPLE THAT WOULD PLUNDER AND STUFF, YEAH,
AND EVERYONE'S TURNED INTO BANDITS...

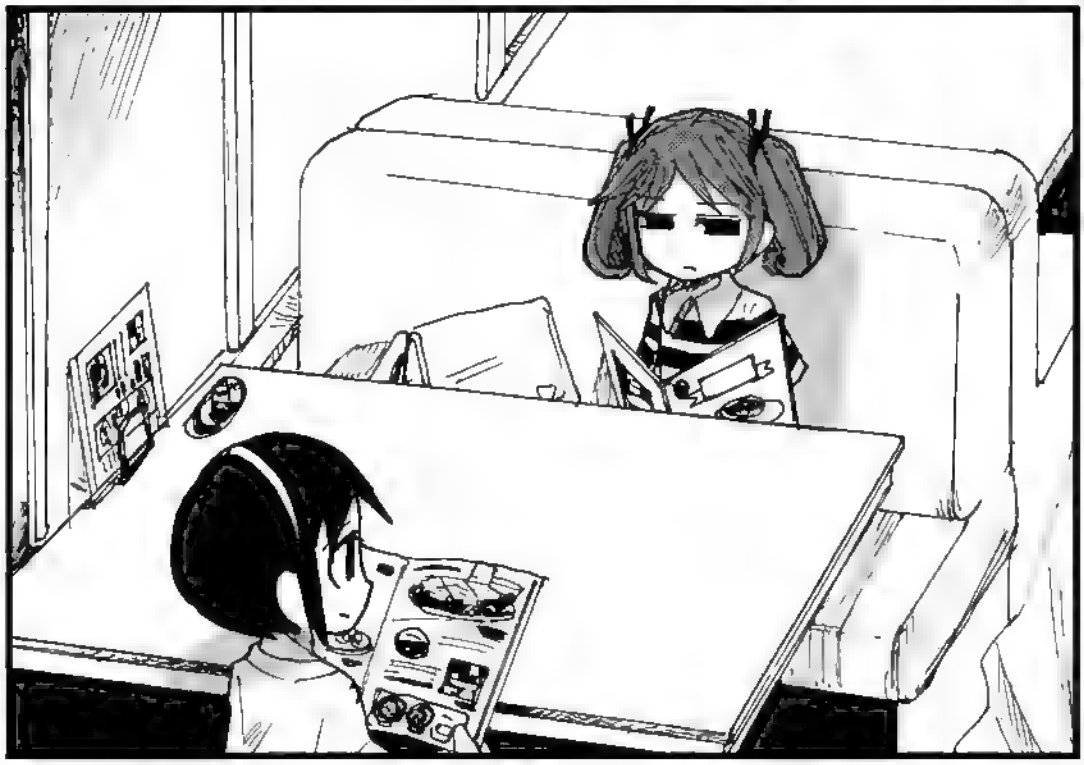
PRETTY SURE THERE'S PLENTY OF KIND PEOPLE TOO.
I DON'T THINK SO, THOUGH.

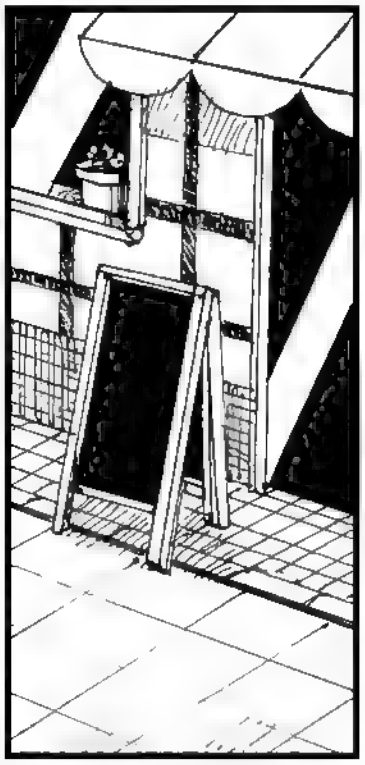
"YOU'LL DEFINITELY BE THIS", "YOU'LL DEFINITELY BE THAT", RIGHT?
YOU'D HATE IT IF PEOPLE SAY

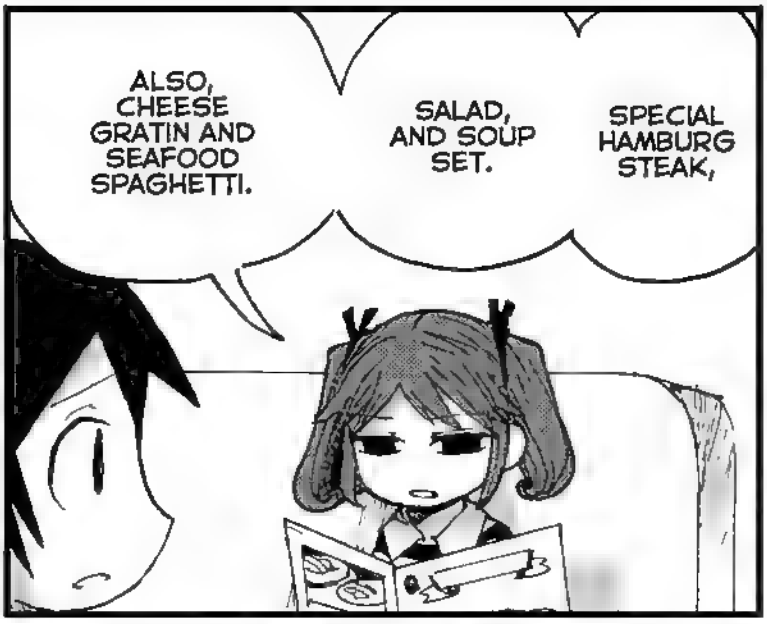
THEY'D BE BANDITS NO MATTER THE ERA.
BUT I BET PEOPLE LIKE THEM WOULD BE BANDITS EVEN NOW.

STILL, IT'S MOSTLY ACCURATE.

LET'S EAT AT THAT CAFE OVER THERE, THEN.
ANYWAY, I'M KINDA THIRSTY.
UGH... LET'S JUST DROP IT. THIS IS GETTING DUMB.
THAT'S NOT...



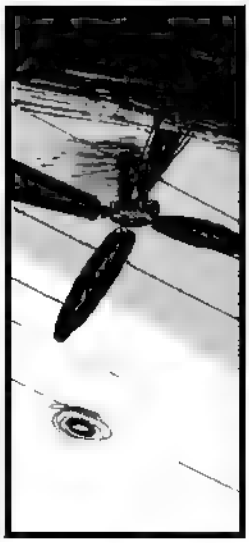



ALSO, CHEESE GRATIN AND SEAFOOD SPAGHETTI.
SALAD, AND SOUP SET.
SPECIAL HAMBURG STEAK,

AND ONE CHOCOLATE BANANA PARFAIT.
ICED COFFEE

CHOCOLATE BANANA PARFAIT AND OOLONG TEA TOO.

THE PRESIDENT SAID WE CAN HAVE LUNCH, RIGHT?
CAN YOU EAT ALL THAT?



DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO EAT THAT MUCH...
I'M NOT FORCING MYSELF. DON'T WORRY.

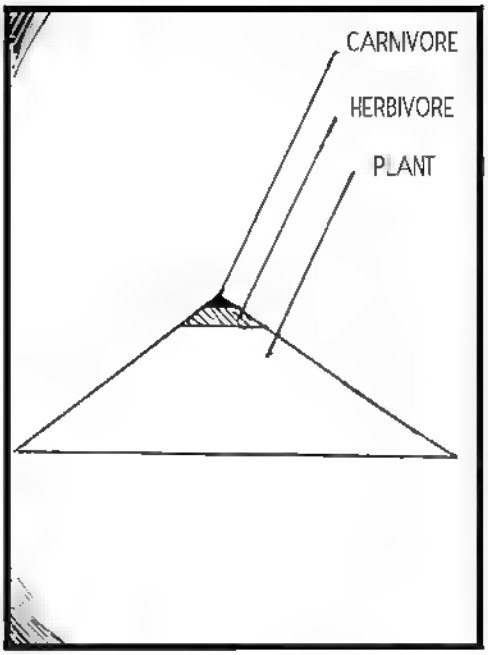
WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT AGAIN?
ABOUT OUR EARLIER TALK.

BY THE WAY.

HE SAID THAT RESOURCES HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED TOO.
VICE PREZ SAID THIS ABOUT ECO-SYSTEMS.
BUT WHEN I WAS STUDYING ABOUT DIGITAL ORGANISMS,
FOOD, BASICALLY.

IF THE WORLD ENDS.
ABOUT WHETHER BANDITS WOULD BE EVERY-WHERE

OF COURSE.


CARNIVORE
HERBIVORE
PLANT

THAT SITUATION WOULDN'T BE A PYRAMID.
THERE'S THAT FOOD PYRAMID THING, RIGHT?

IT'S BALANCED THIS WAY, RIGHT...?
ABOVE THEM ARE CARNIVORES, OF WHICH THERE ARE EVEN LESS.
ABOVE A WHOLE LOT OF PLANTS ARE HERBIVORES, OF WHICH THERE AREN'T MANY.

WHAT ABOUT THAT?
THEN IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE THAT "A POST-APOCALYPTIC WORLD WOULD HAVE PLENTY OF BANDITS BECAUSE THERE WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH FOOD!", DOES IT?

WOULDN'T THERE HAVE TO BE PLENTY OF FOOD IN THE WORLD?
FOR A SPECIES OF BANDITS TO EXIST,

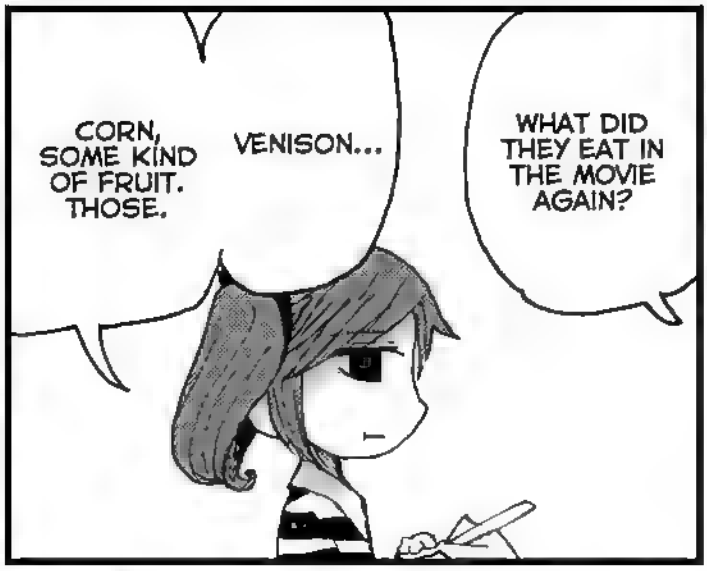
THAT MUST BE BECAUSE THE SCALE OF THE SCARCITY IS DIFFERENT.
YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO STEAL ANYTHING IF THERE ISN'T ANY FOOD.

IT'S EVEN MORE PREVALENT WHEN THERE'S FOOD SCARCITY.
BUT BANDITRY HAS ALWAYS EXISTED.

YEAH, BUT...
IF THERE'S PLENTY OF IT, THEY'D JUST GET FOOD NORMALLY, RIGHT?

THEY STEAL FROM WHERE THERE'S FOOD.
WELL, DEPENDS ON HOW MUCH OF A WRECK THE WORLD IS, I SUPPOSE.
THEN THERE MUST BE FOOD SOMEWHERE.

I GUESS, BUT...
I MEAN, IF THERE REALLY ISN'T ANY, HUMANS WOULD GO EXTINCT, RIGHT?

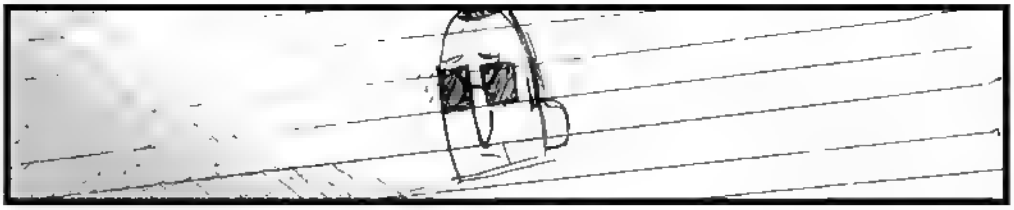

CORN, SOME KIND OF FRUIT. THOSE.
VENISON...
WHAT DID THEY EAT IN THE MOVIE AGAIN?

SO THERE'S FOOD EVEN AFTER THE APOCALYPSE...?

WE STILL HAVE TO WRITE A REPORT, YOU KNOW?
FORGOT ALREADY?

WAIT, WAS THAT IN THE MOVIE?
THERE'S PROBABLY SOME SORT OF PLANTATION SOMEWHERE.

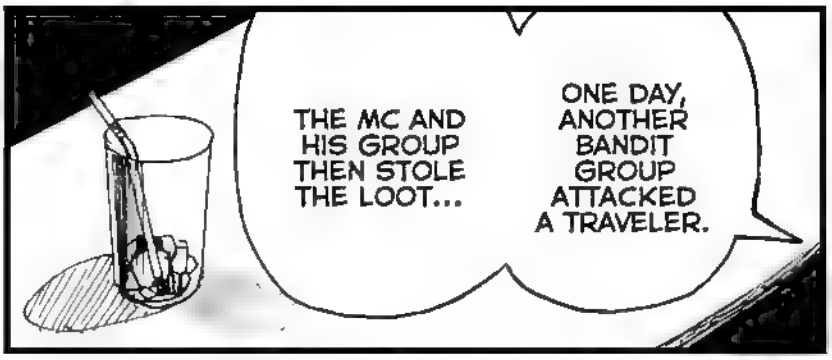
LET'S WRITE THINGS DOWN BEFORE WE FORGET.
CAN WE WRITE IT LIKE A BOOK REPORT...?



PREZ ASKED FOR ONE...
OH, RIGHT.

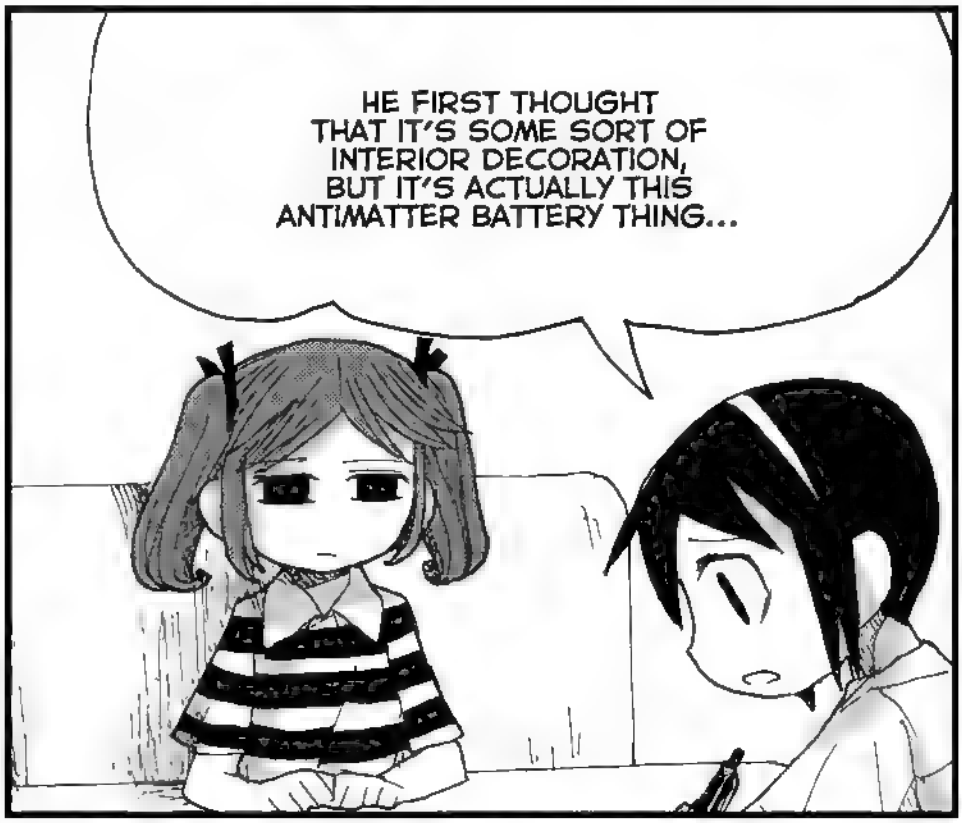
AS IT FALLS INTO ANARCHY...
VIOLENCE RULES OVER A SURVIVING TOWN

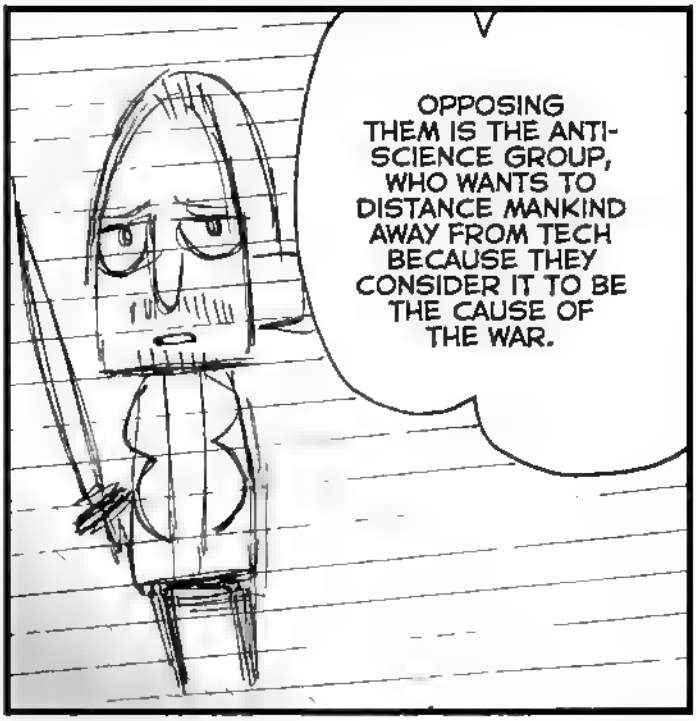
LURKING NEAR THE TOWN...
THE MAIN CHARACTER IS THE LEADER OF A GROUP OF BANDITS,

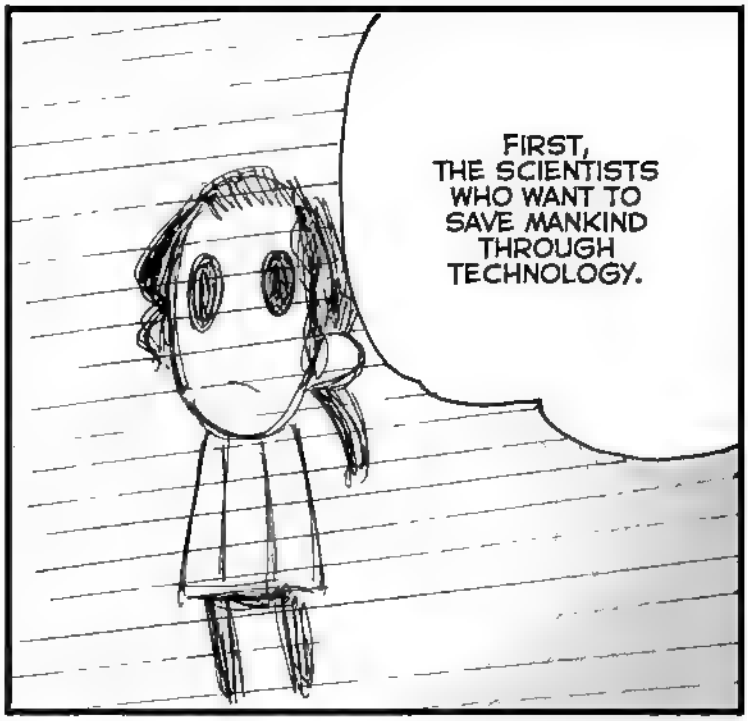

THE MC AND HIS GROUP THEN STOLE THE LOOT...
ONE DAY, ANOTHER BANDIT GROUP ATTACKED A TRAVELER.

UHH, THE MOVIE STARTED WITH AN APOCALYPTIC WAR THAT HAPPENED DUE TO UNEXPLAINED REASONS...
I GUESS WE SHOULD START WITH A SYNOPSIS.

RESULTED IN HIM BEING HUNTED BY OTHER GROUPS.
HIM HAVING THE BATTERY

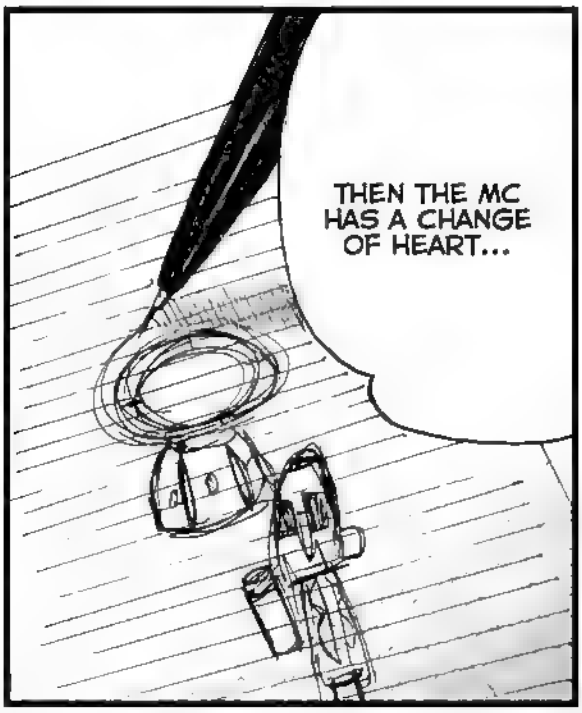

HE FIRST THOUGHT THAT IT'S SOME SORT OF INTERIOR DECORATION, BUT IT'S ACTUALLY THIS ANTIMATTER BATTERY THING...

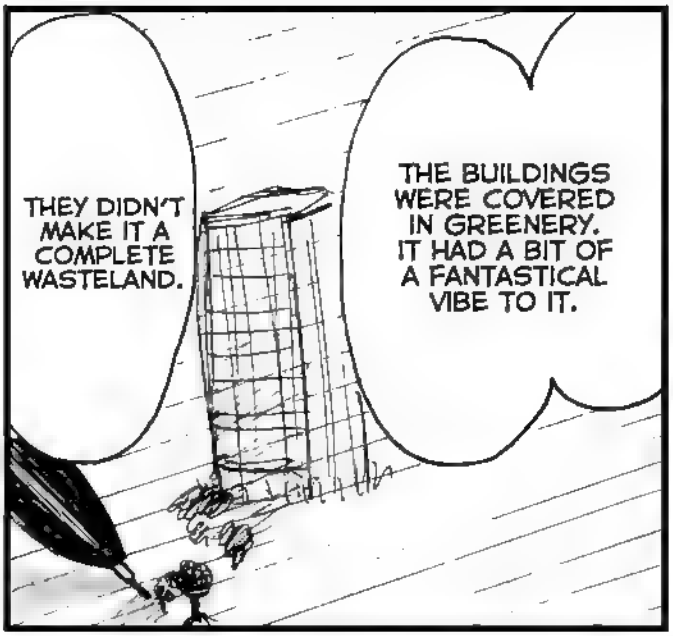

OPPOSING THEM IS THE ANTI-SCIENCE GROUP, WHO WANTS TO DISTANCE MANKIND AWAY FROM TECH BECAUSE THEY CONSIDER IT TO BE THE CAUSE OF THE WAR.


FIRST, THE SCIENTISTS WHO WANT TO SAVE MANKIND THROUGH TECHNOLOGY.

THE ACCELERATOR ITSELF IS PROBABLY SOME SORT OF SUPER GENERATOR... I GUESS?
THE ANTI-MATTER BATTERY IS NEEDED TO ACTIVATE MANKIND'S LAST LEGACY, THE ACCE-LERATOR.

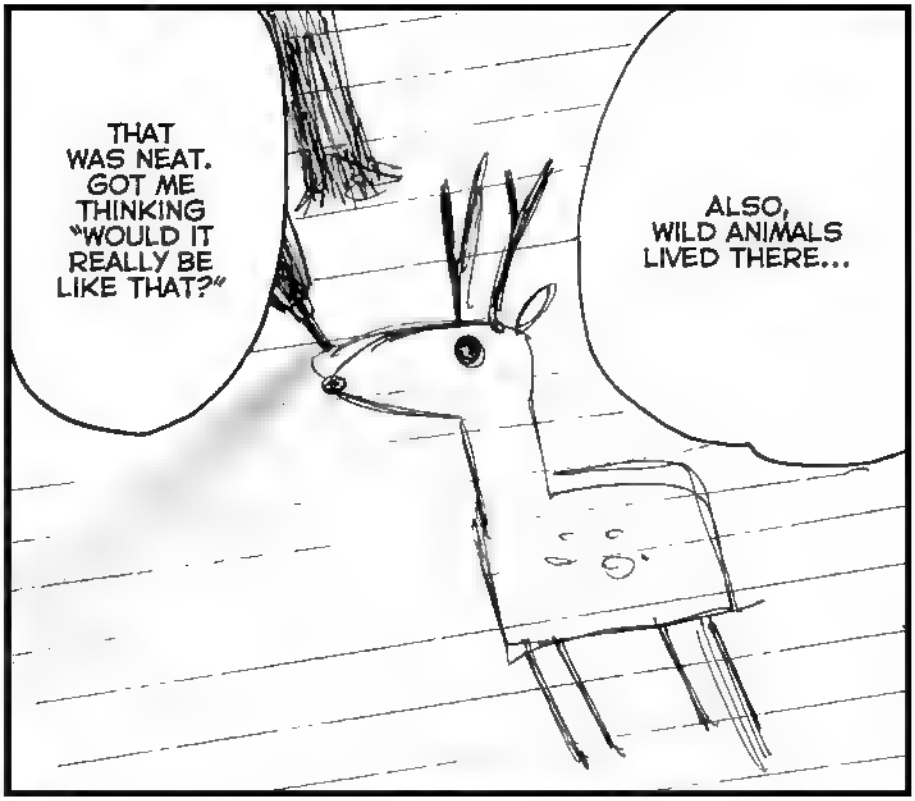
HOWEVER, AN ANTI-SCIENCE GUY ENDED UP BREAKING THE BATTERY.
SAYING THAT THERE MUST BE A PURPOSE AND PROPER USE TO EVERYTHING...
HE CAME TO VIEW PEOPLE AND TOOLS IN A NEW LIGHT...
POOR THING...

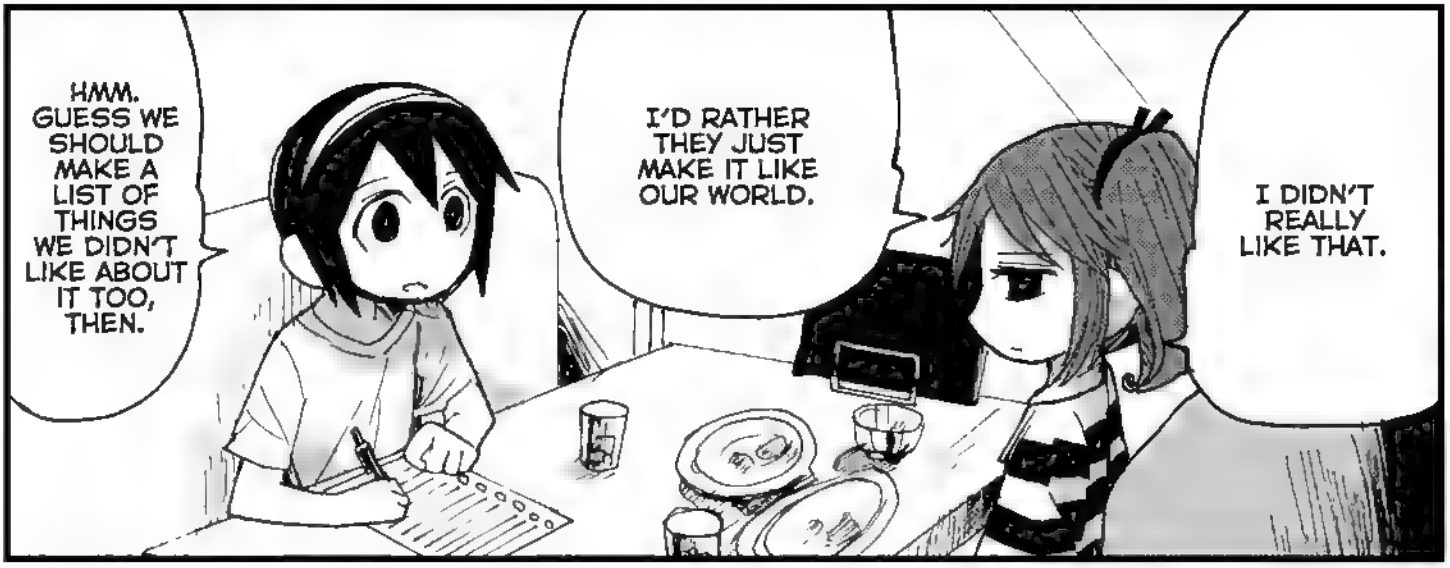

THEN THE MC HAS A CHANGE OF HEART...


THEY DIDN'T MAKE IT A COMPLETE WASTELAND.
THE BUILDINGS WERE COVERED IN GREENERY. IT HAD A BIT OF A FANTASTICAL VIBE TO IT.

WHAT WE LIKED ABOUT IT?
NEXT IS... UHH...
AND THAT'S IT FOR THE SYNOPSIS.

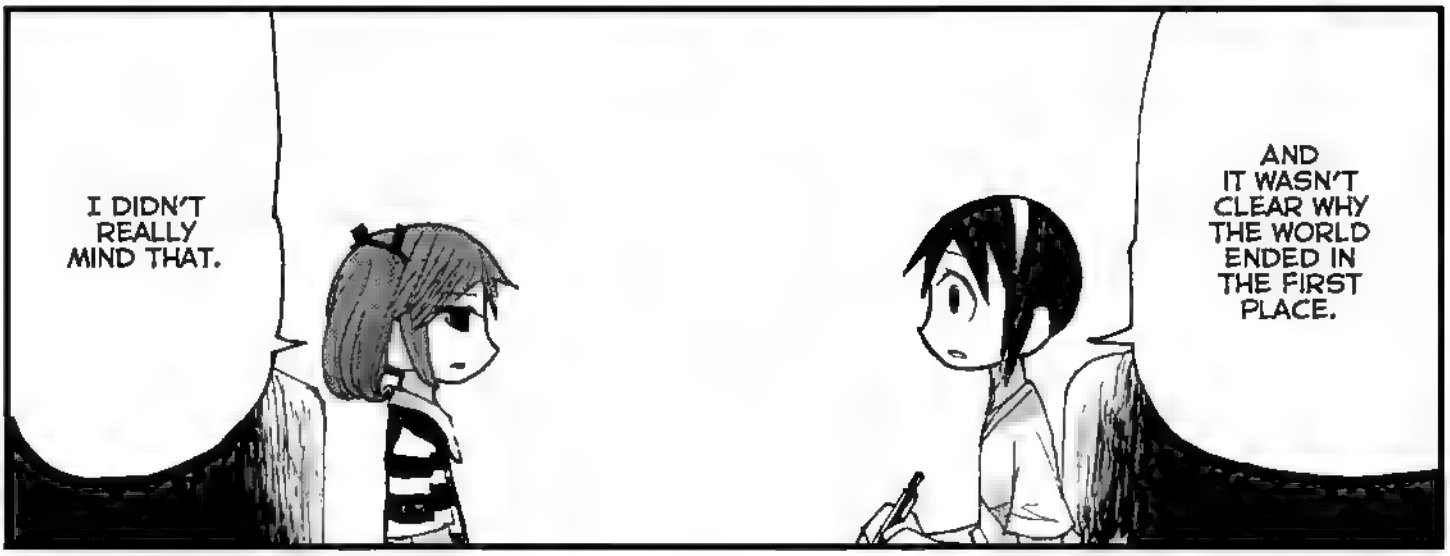
IT'S GOT A BIT OF SCI-FI TO IT.
THERE'S ANTIMATTER AND STUFF TOO.

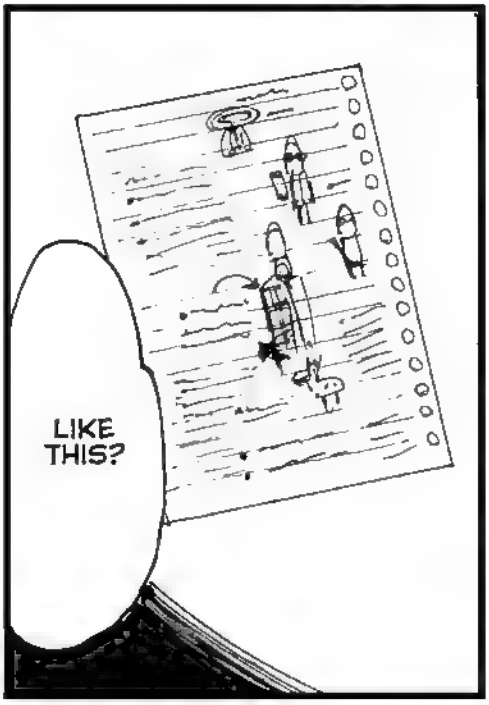

THAT WAS NEAT. GOT ME THINKING "WOULD IT REALLY BE LIKE THAT?"
ALSO, WILD ANIMALS LIVED THERE...

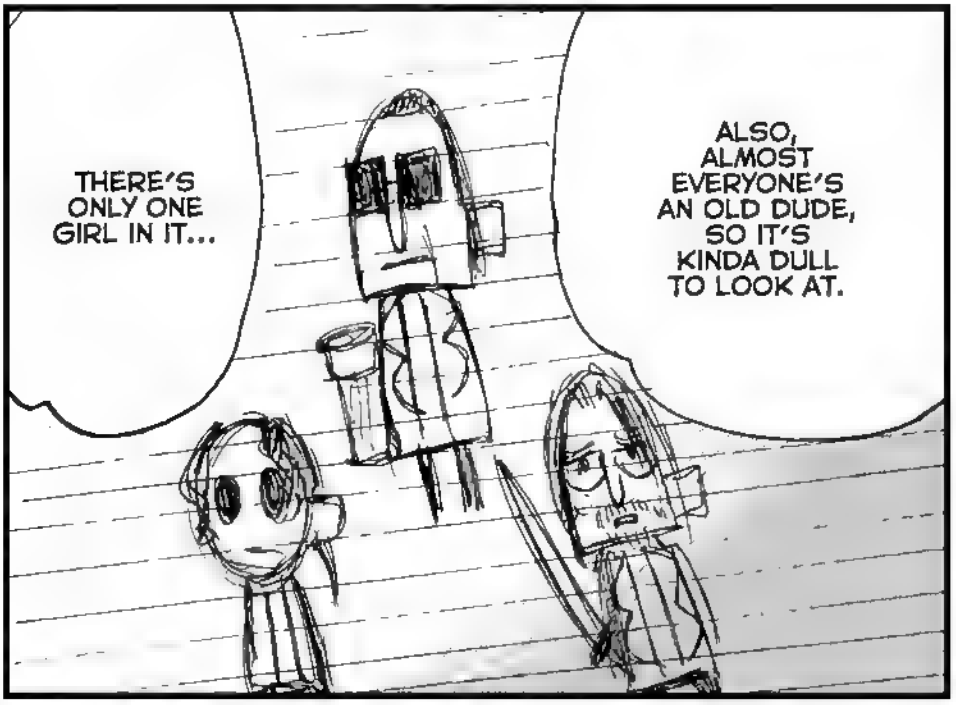

HMM. GUESS WE SHOULD MAKE A LIST OF THINGS WE DIDN'T LIKE ABOUT IT TOO, THEN.
I'D RATHER THEY JUST MAKE IT LIKE OUR WORLD.
I DIDN'T REALLY LIKE THAT.

YOU'RE HUNG UP ON THIS, AREN'T YOU?
I GUESS THE SETTING, WITH VIOLENCE RULING EVERYTHING AFTER THE WORLD'S ENDED.

LET'S SEE...
STUFF I DIDN'T LIKE, HUH?


I DIDN'T REALLY MIND THAT.
AND IT WASN'T CLEAR WHY THE WORLD ENDED IN THE FIRST PLACE.


LIKE THIS?


THERE'S ONLY ONE GIRL IN IT...
ALSO, ALMOST EVERYONE'S AN OLD DUDE, SO IT'S KINDA DULL TO LOOK AT.

YEAH! THIS IS FINE. THANKS.

YOU HAD A MEAL WITH HER, RIGHT?
ANYWAY, ARE YOU TWO GOOD NOW?

IT'S GOT DRAWINGS TOO, SO IT'S EASY TO GET.
YEAH.
IS IT?

SO I THOUGHT IT'D BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO MAKE UP...
I MEAN, I HEARD YOU GOT INTO A FIGHT WITH HER...
DID IT FAIL?

GEEZ!
IT'S NOT A DATE! YOU SAID IT YOURSELF!

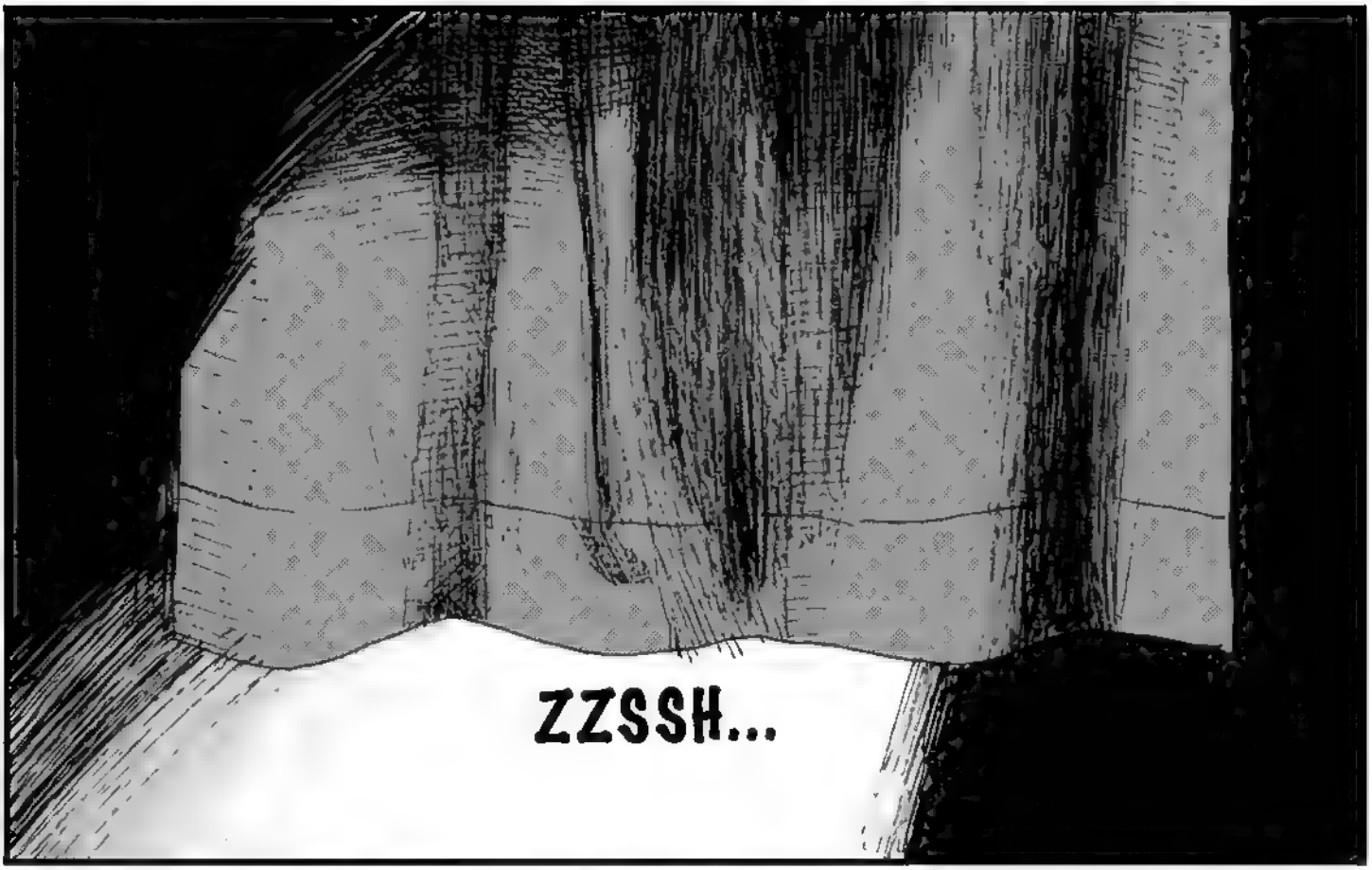
BUT YOU AT LEAST TALKED, RIGHT?
WELL? DID THINGS GET BETTER? JUST A BIT, AT LEAST?

YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST LEFT US ALONE!
GEEZ!

IN THE FIRST PLACE, SHE RARELY TALKS.
WE DIDN'T TALK A LOT.
I DON'T KNOW.

IF SHE ACTUALLY HATES ME OR NOT...
I COULD NEVER TELL IF SHE'S MAD OR NOT.

I'D SAY I NOW KNOW THAT'S JUST HOW SHE ALWAYS IS.
BUT, WELL, IF ANYTHING,
HMM... THAT'S A WIN, I GUESS?


ZZSSH...

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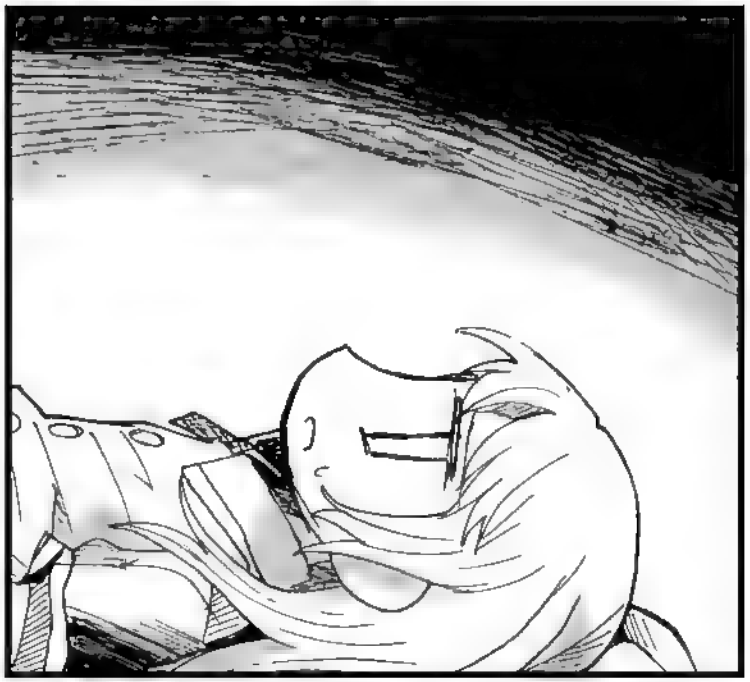
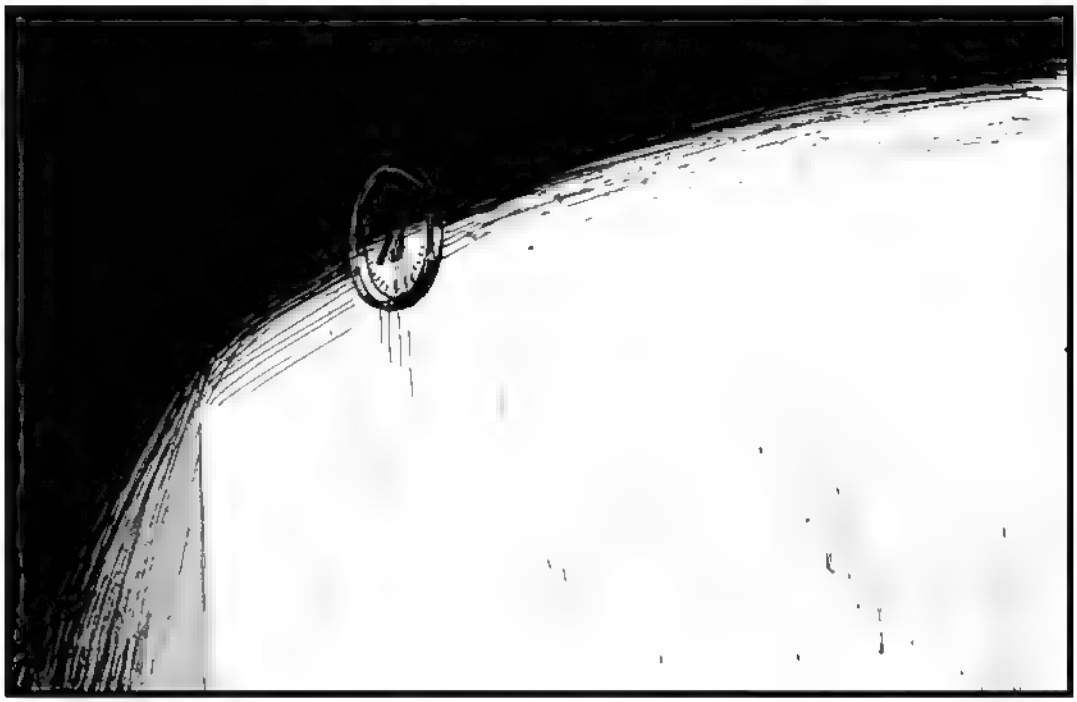
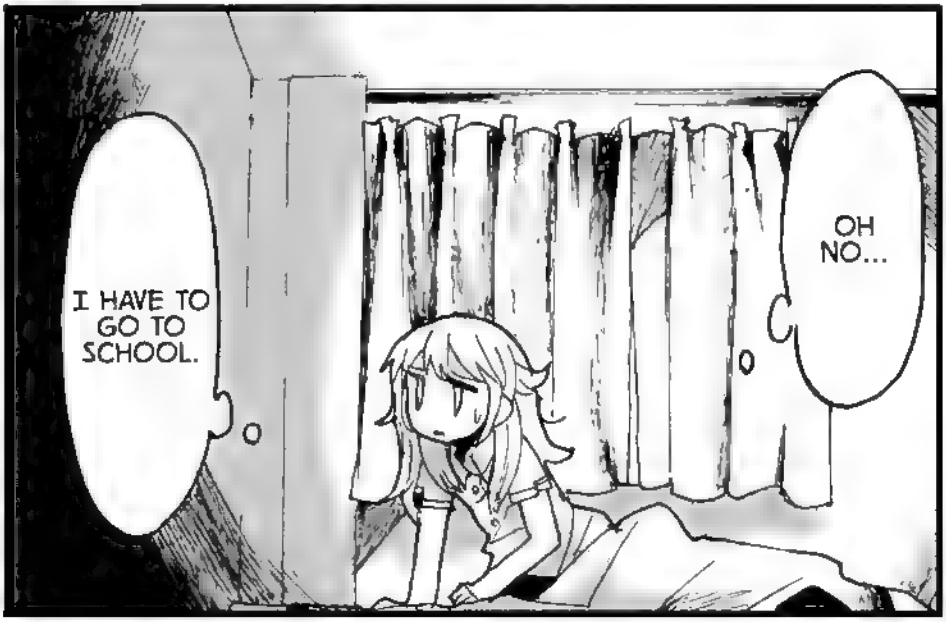
HUFF...
HUFF...

WHAT HOUR...
IS IT ...?




OH NO...
I HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL.

I DON'T HAVE SCHOOL TODAY!
WHAT AM I THINKING?

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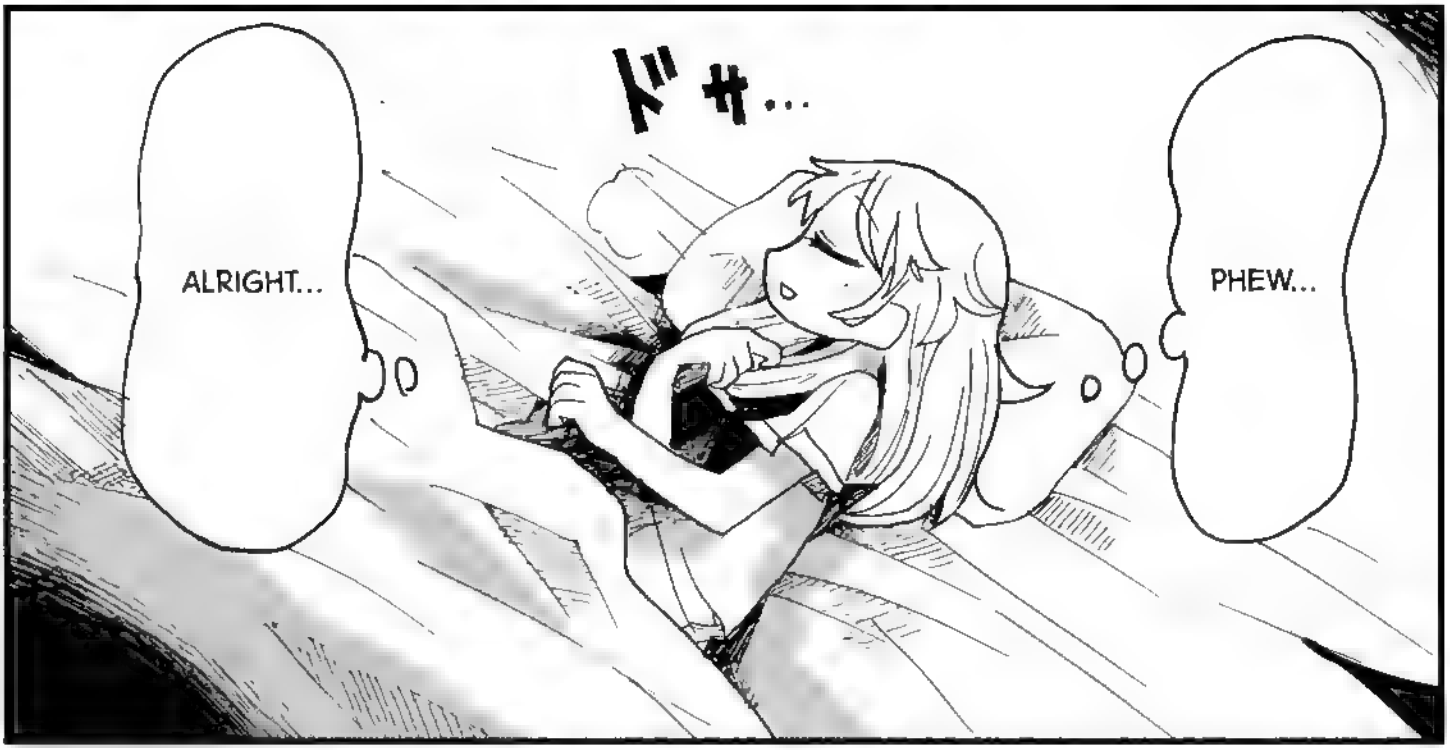
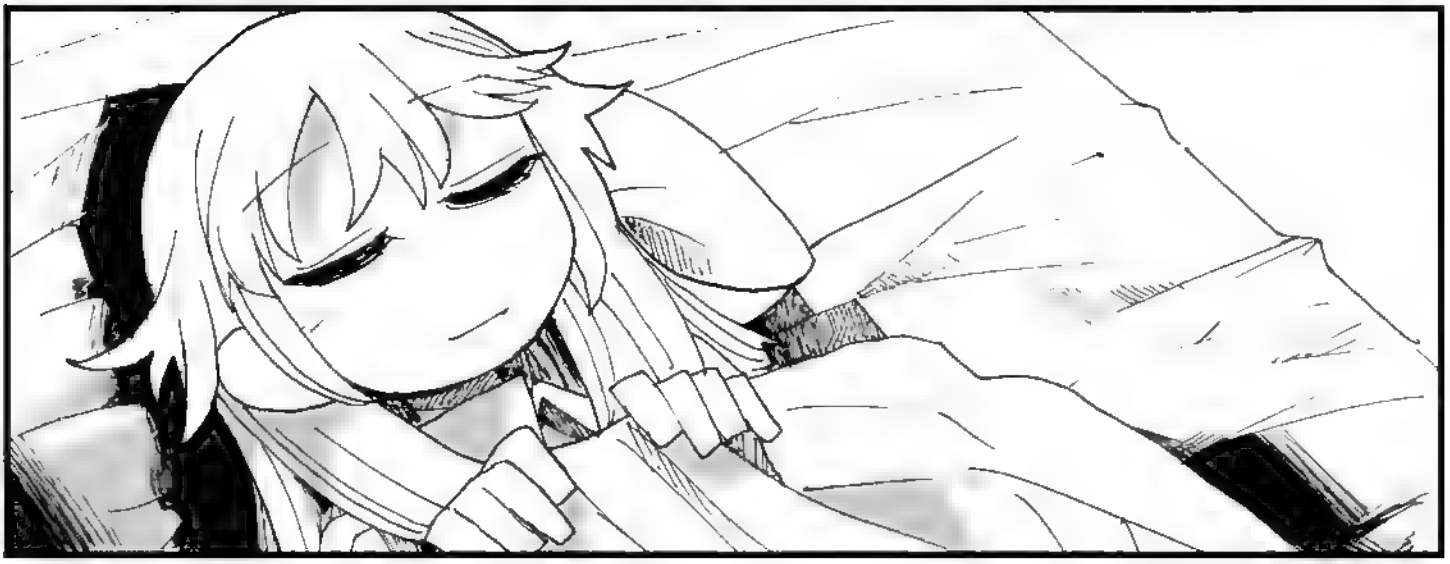
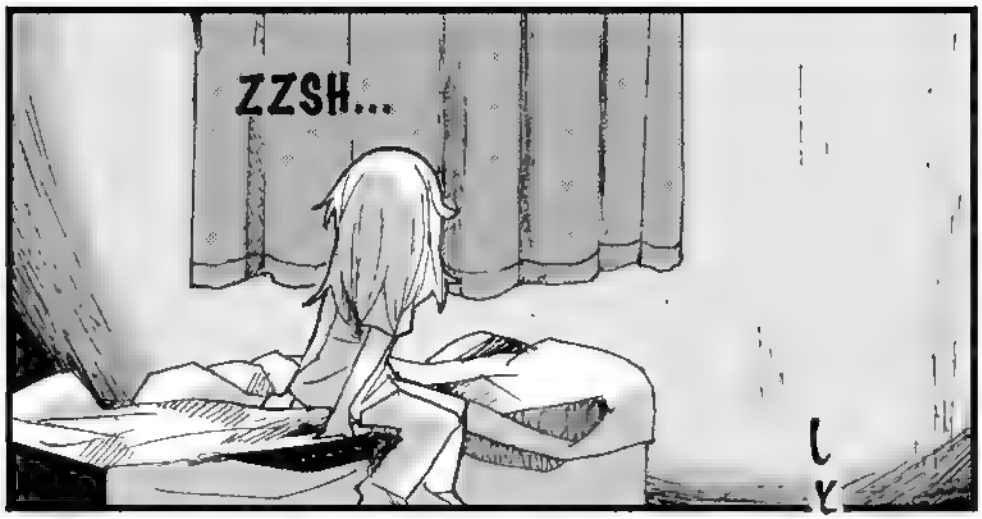

ドサ…
ALRIGHT…
PHEW…




ZZSH...
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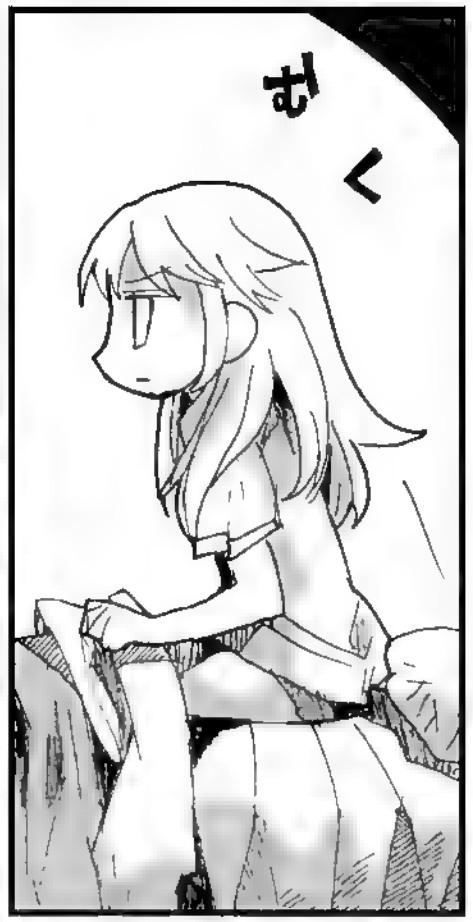
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ZZSHHHH...
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LET'S GET UP!
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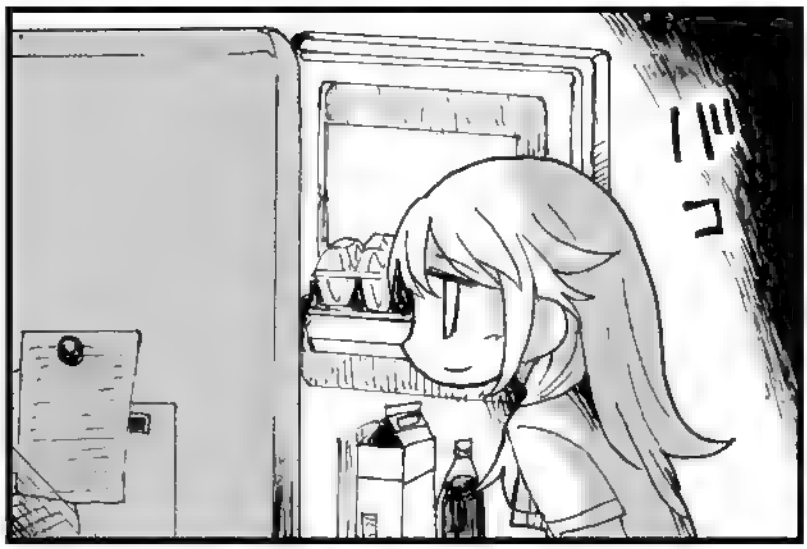
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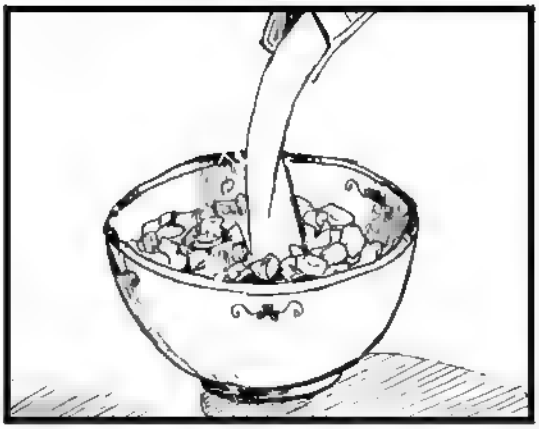

朝食専用

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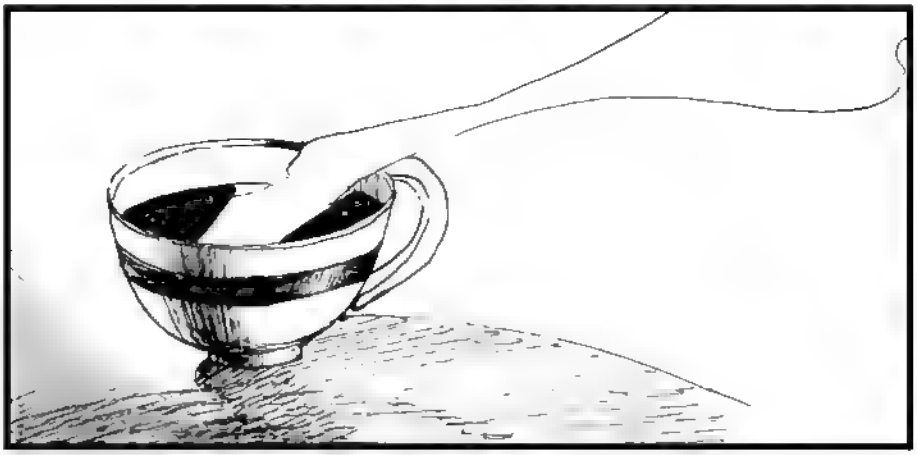

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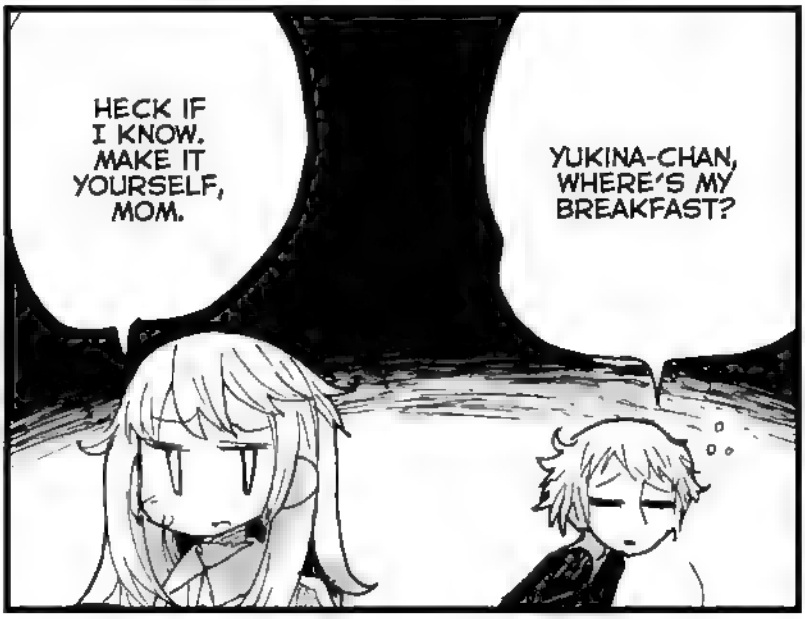
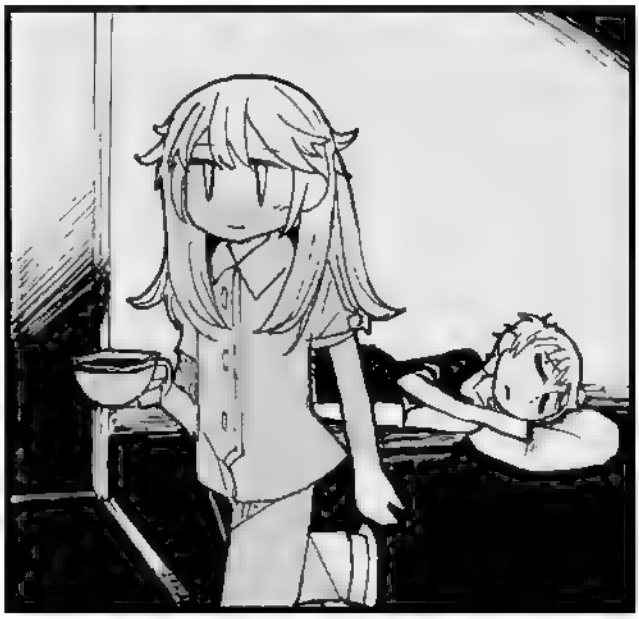
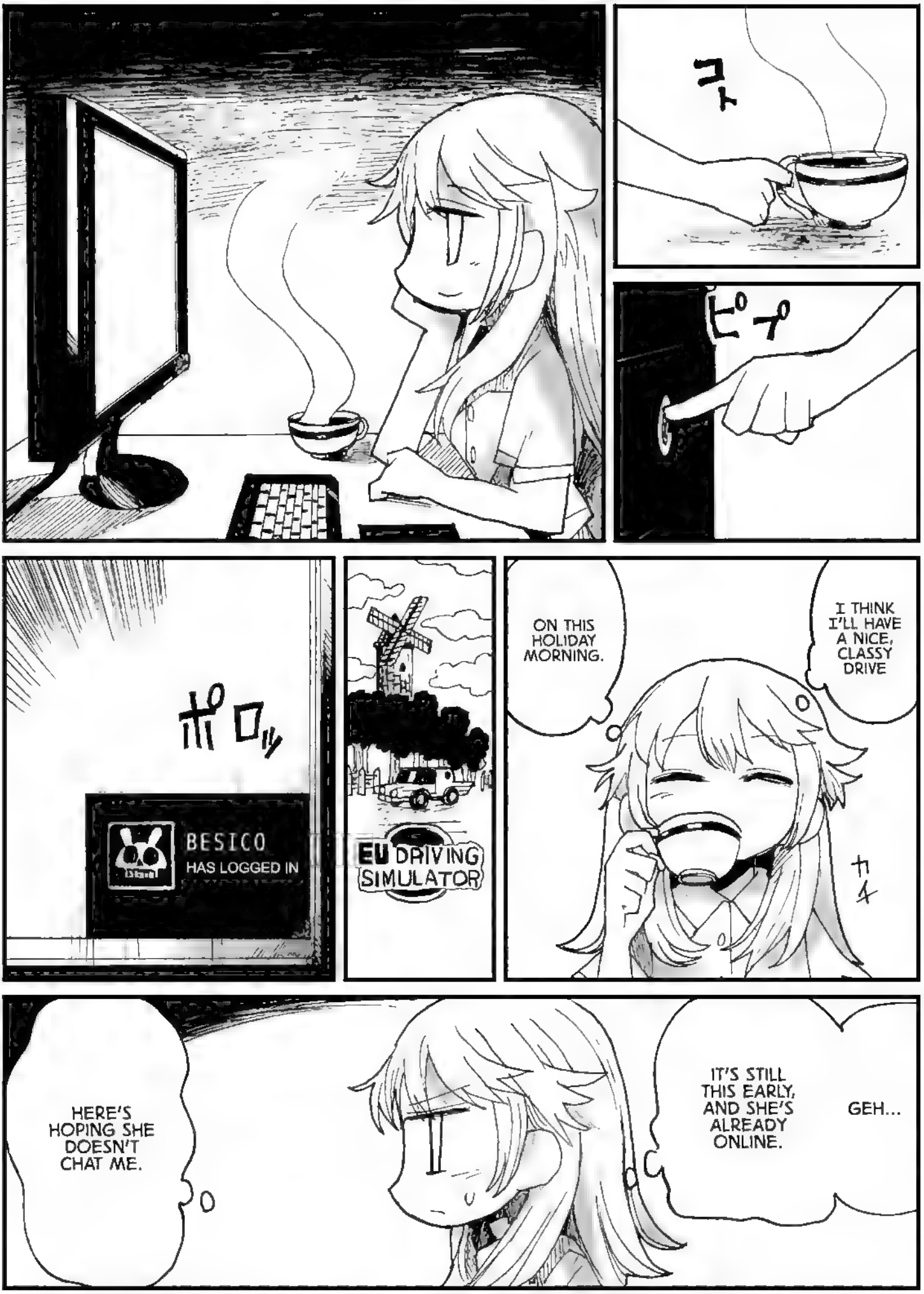

YUKINA-CHAN, WHERE'S MY BREAKFAST?
HECK IF I KNOW. MAKE IT YOURSELF, MOM.




コト
ピポ
ポロッ
BESICO
HAS LOGGED IN
EU DRIVING SIMULATOR
ON THIS HOLIDAY MORNING.
I THINK I'LL HAVE A NICE, CLASSY DRIVE
ケキ
HERE'S HOPING SHE DOESN'T CHAT ME.
IT'S STILL THIS EARLY, AND SHE'S ALREADY ONLINE.
GEH...

BESICO:

Let's play

BESICO:

Preeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeezzzz

ポロッ

KnightofMadness

Preeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeezzzz

Let's play

Morning

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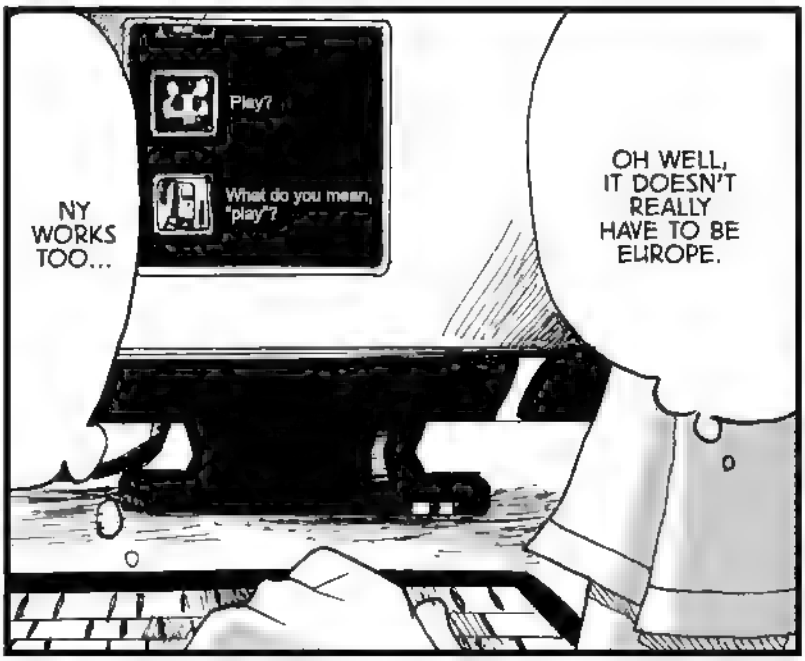
Let's drive together in this game, then

I want to play a relaxing driving game solo, though

NY CITY RAMPAGE II

Play?

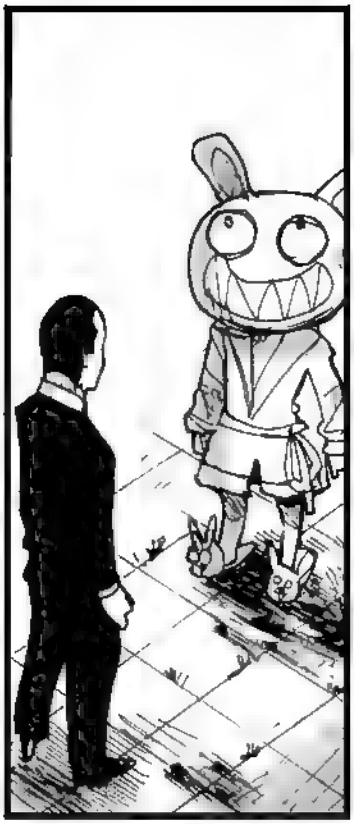


It's fine
We're just gonna drive

I don't want any car chases with cops, okay?

AH.
THE CHA-
RACTER
I MADE
IS STILL
THERE.
パッ
たったったった
たったったった
GYA!!
THE HECK
IS THIS!?
IT'S BE-
SHIKO!?
GEEZ!!

This guy's got a murdered lil bro?



The heck are you wearing?

Gone mad after your little brother got killed?

YOU HAVEN'T DONE THE STORY AT ALL, HAVE YOU?

THAT'S IN THE FIRST QUEST.

OHH... YOU DON'T KNOW?

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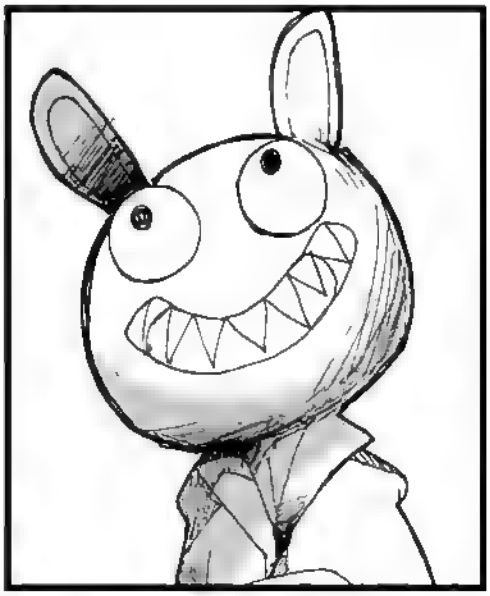
Done a lot of side quests, though

Not at all



GUY HEARD HIS BRO GOT KILLED

LONG STORY SHORT,

SO HE FLEW STRAIGHT TO NEW YORK.

No way You just do whatever you want, huh

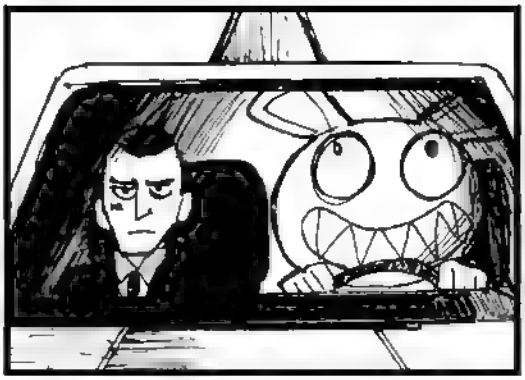
たったったった

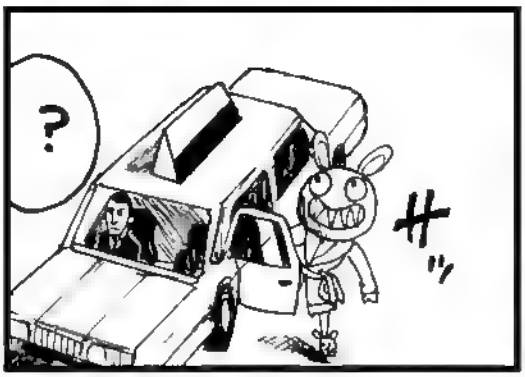
I SUPPOSE HE NOW GOES AROUND HELPING PEOPLE IN TOWN

WEARING A BUNNY HELMET, A BATHROBE, AND SLIPPERS.

WHERE IS SHE GOING?

OH?

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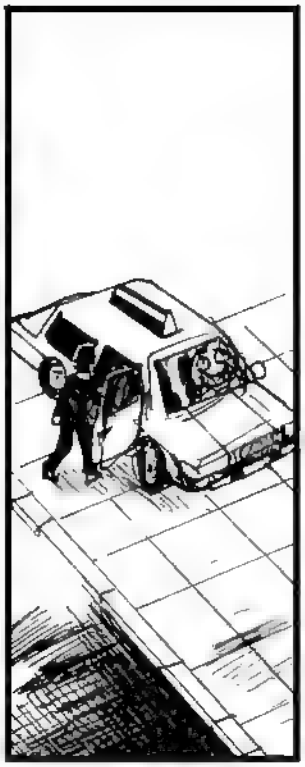
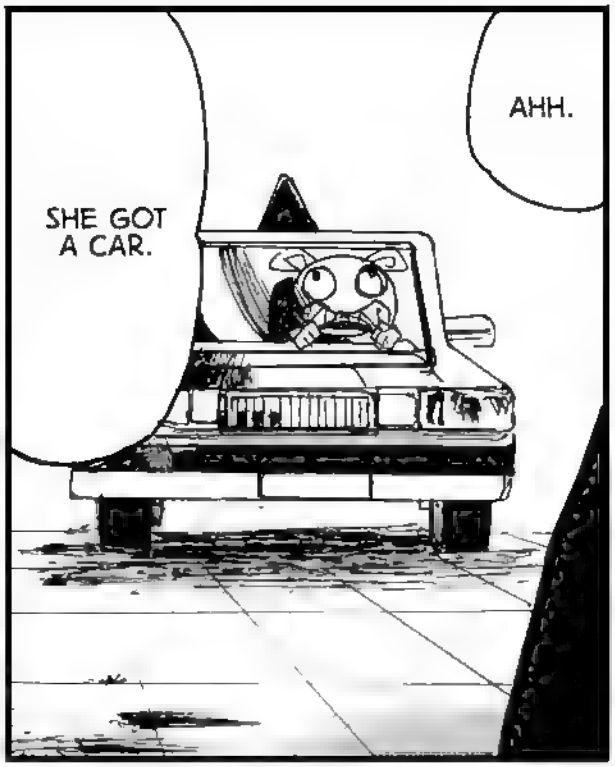
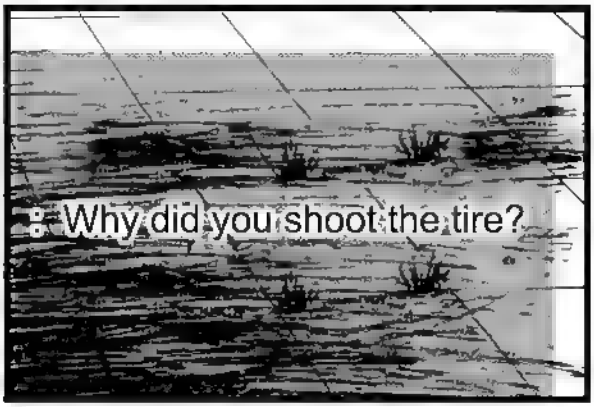
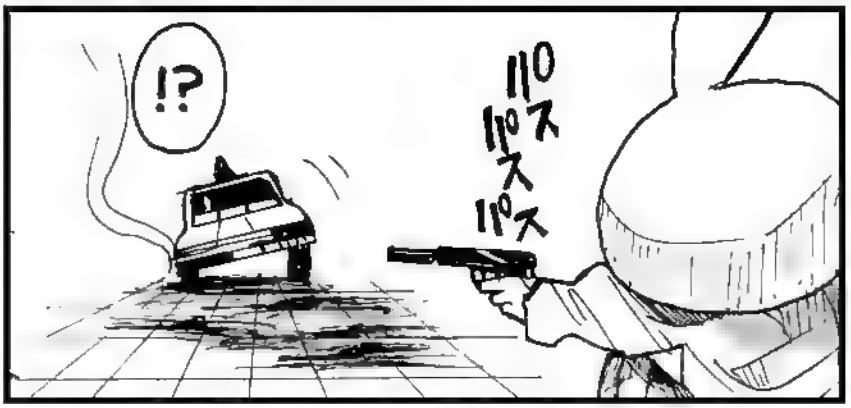



AHH.
SHE GOT A CAR.


Why did you shoot the tire?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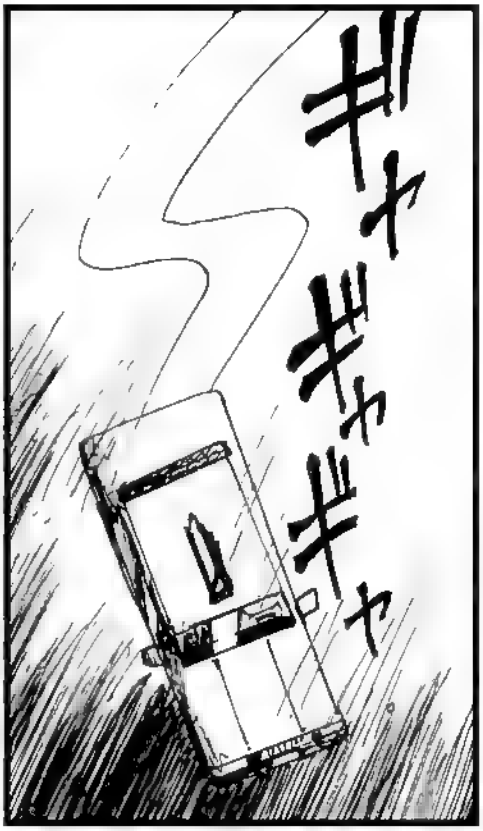
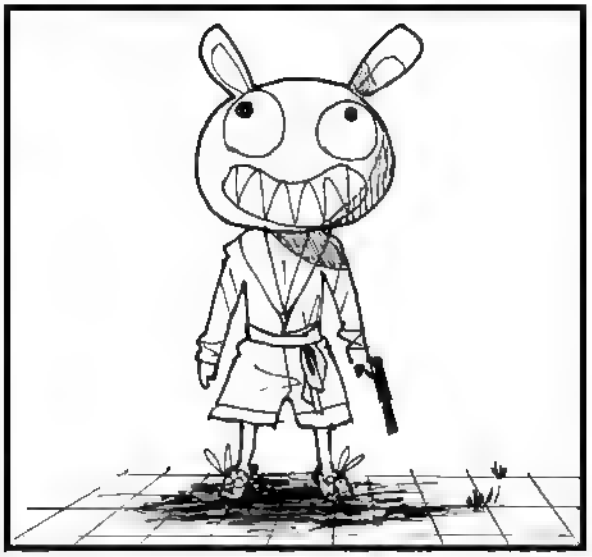
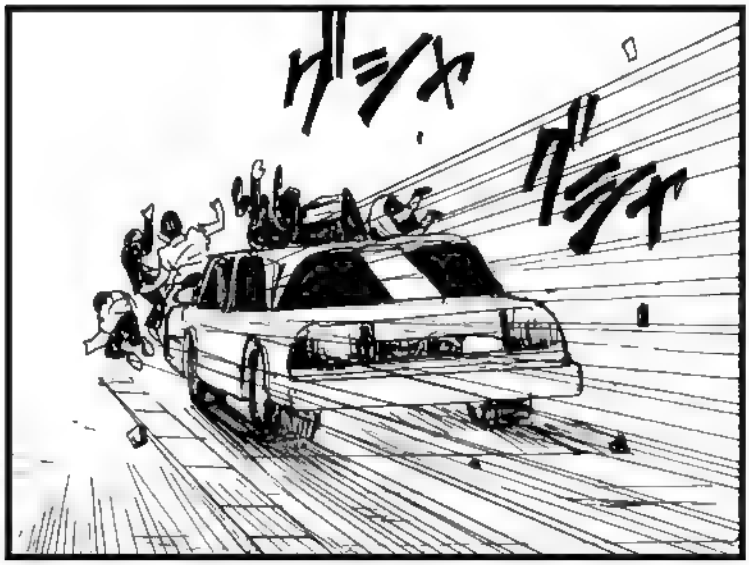


WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "REPAIRS"?
IT CAN'T GO STRAIGHT NOW.



Repairs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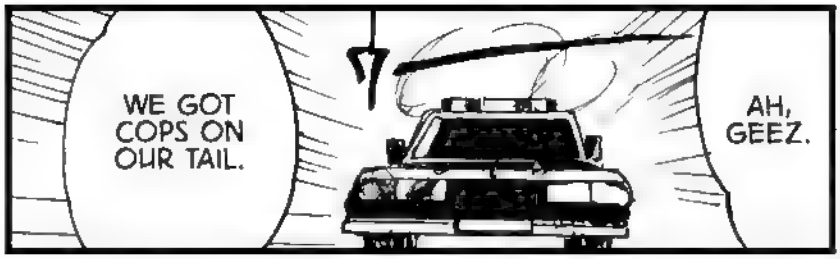
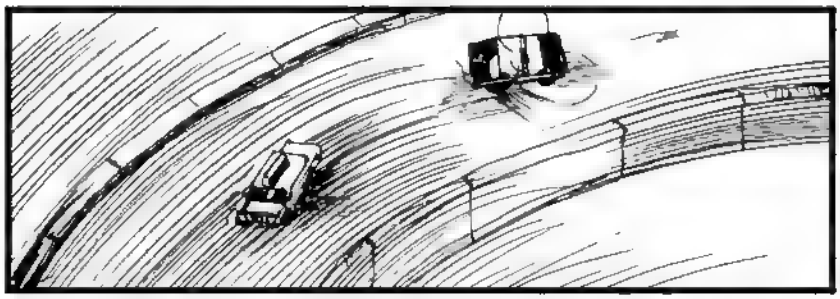
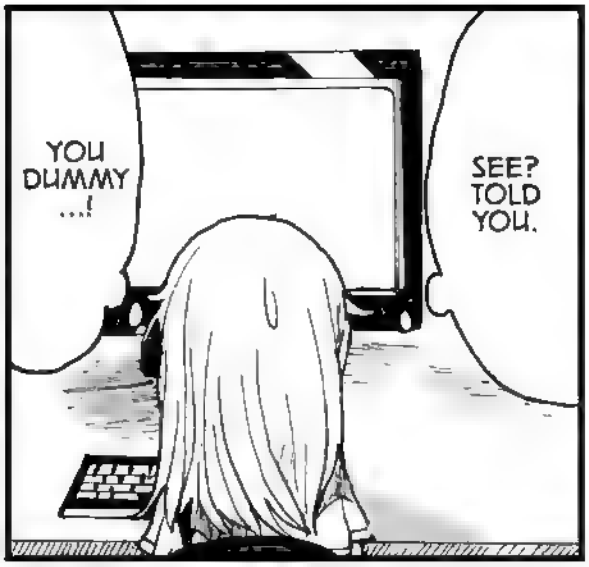

WE GOT COPS ON OUR TAIL.
AH, GEEZ.




YOU DUMMY ...!
SEE? TOLD YOU.

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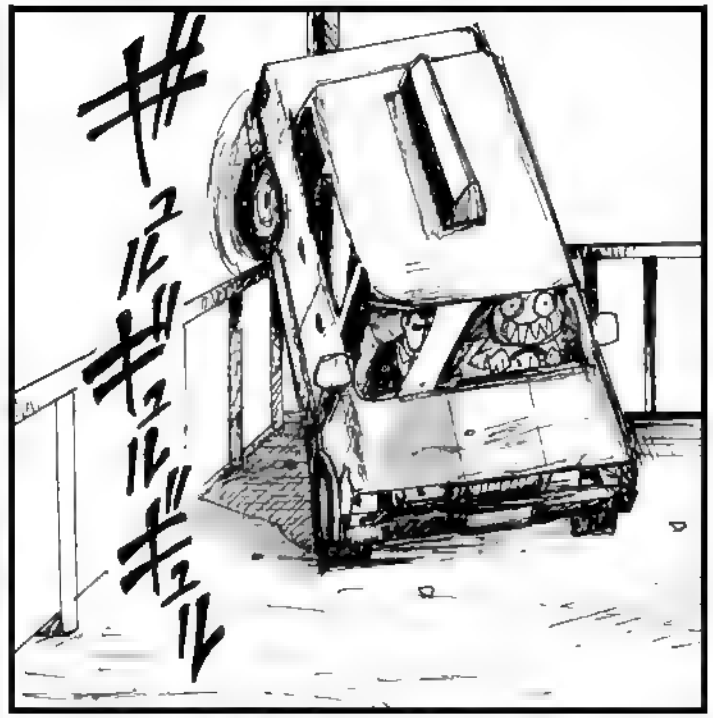
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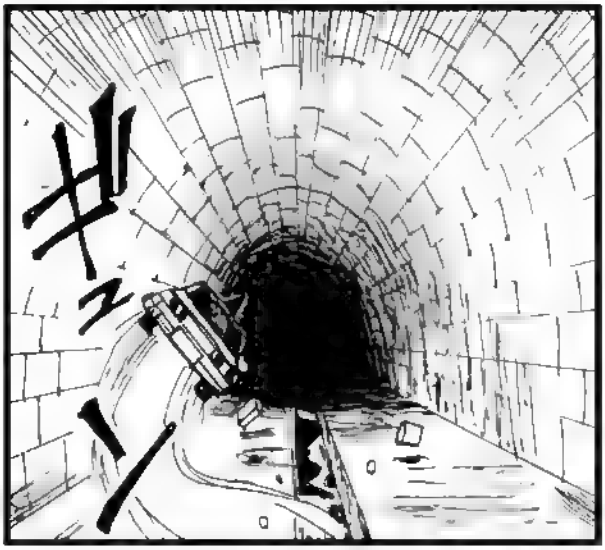
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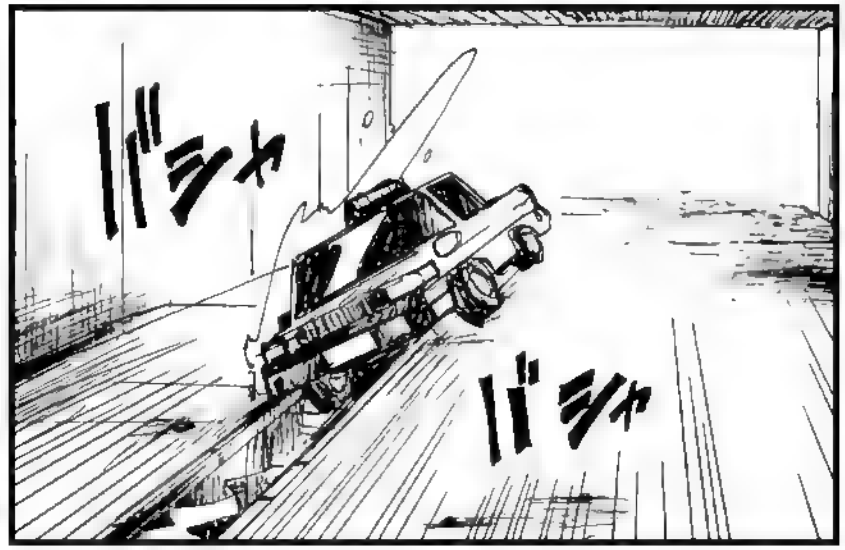
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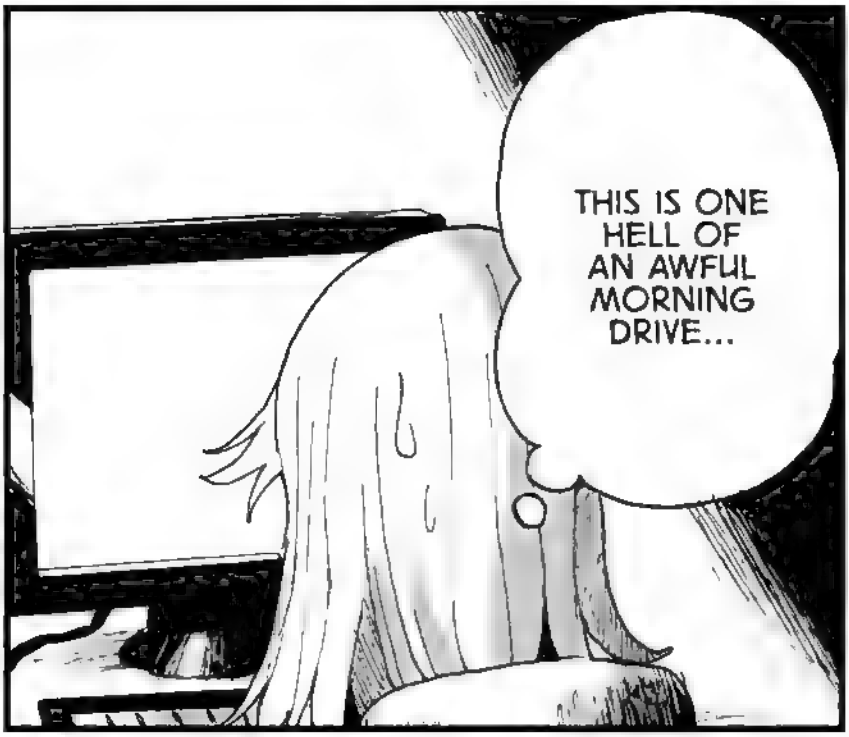
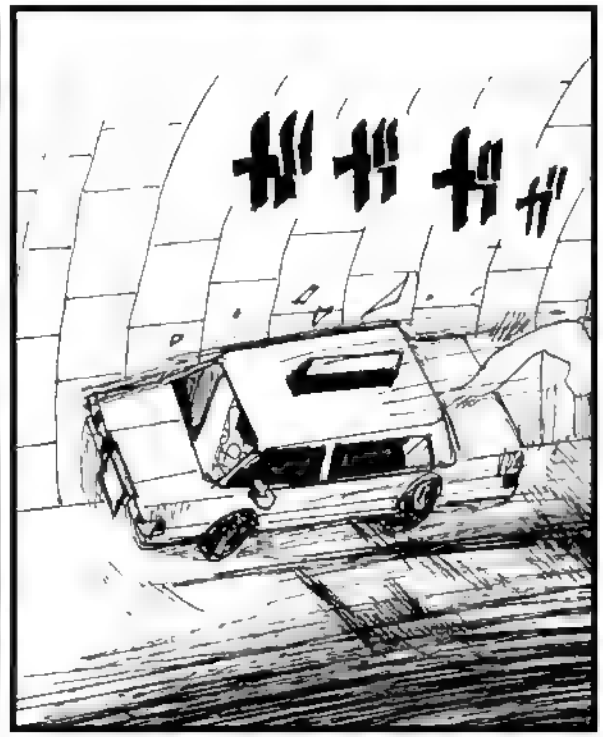

THIS IS ONE HELL OF AN AWFUL MORNING DRIVE...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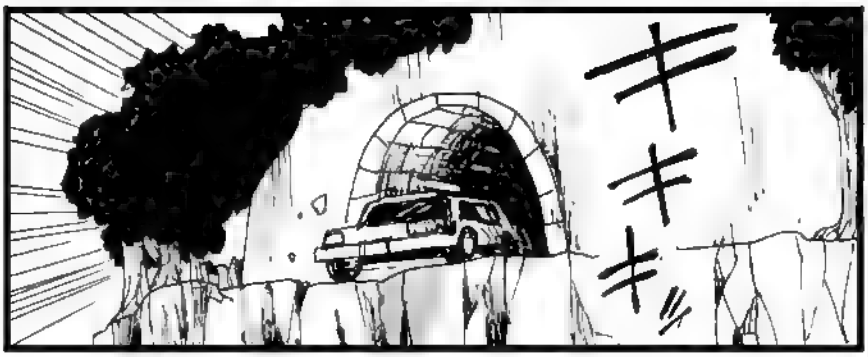
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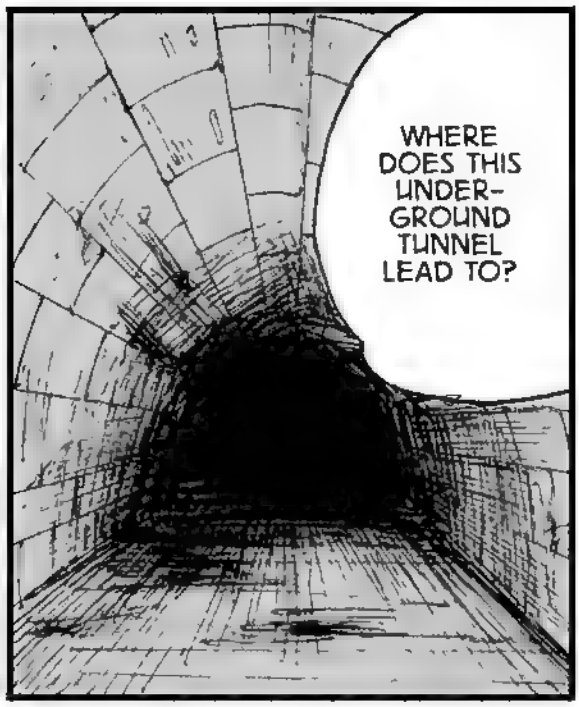
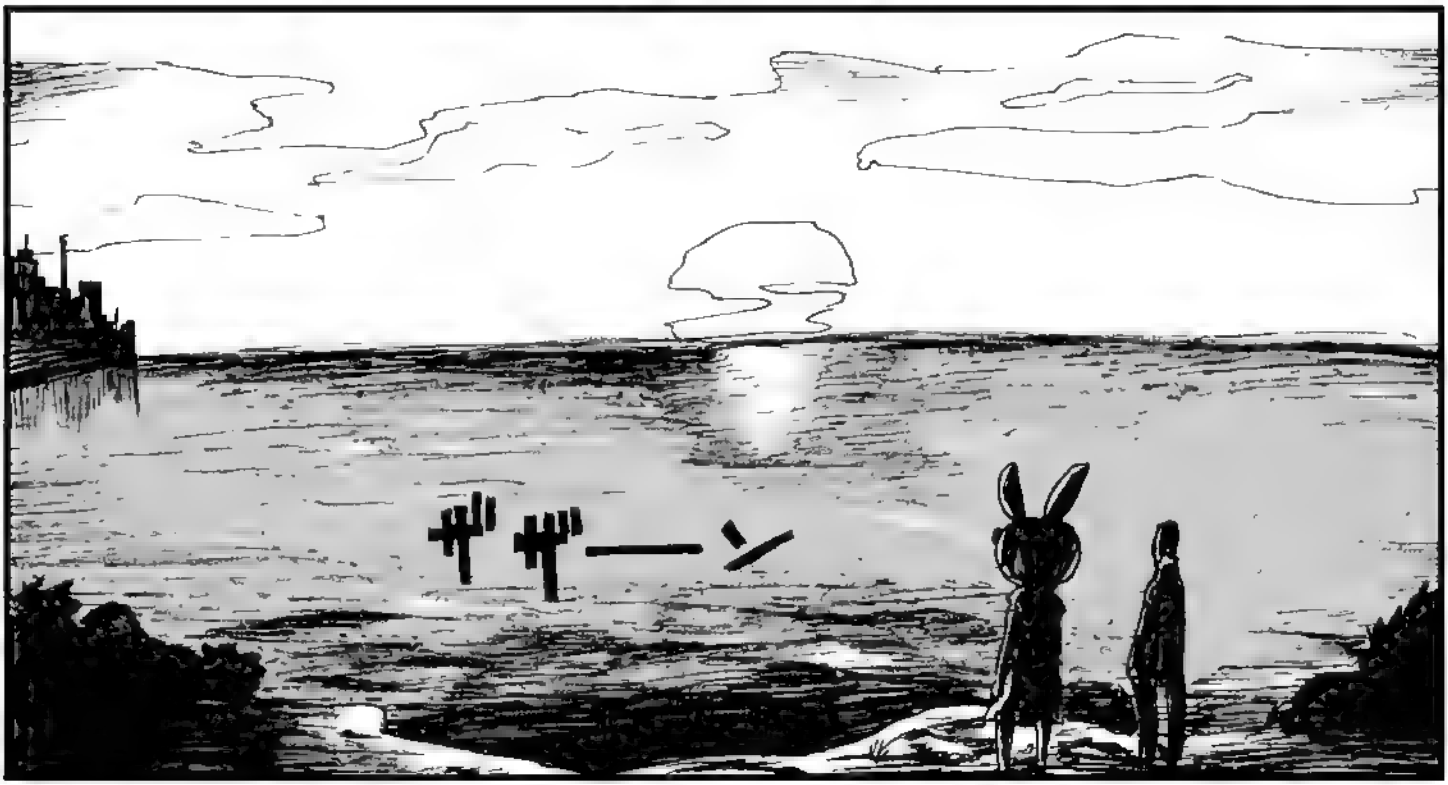

WHERE DOES THIS UNDER-GROUND TUNNEL LEAD TO?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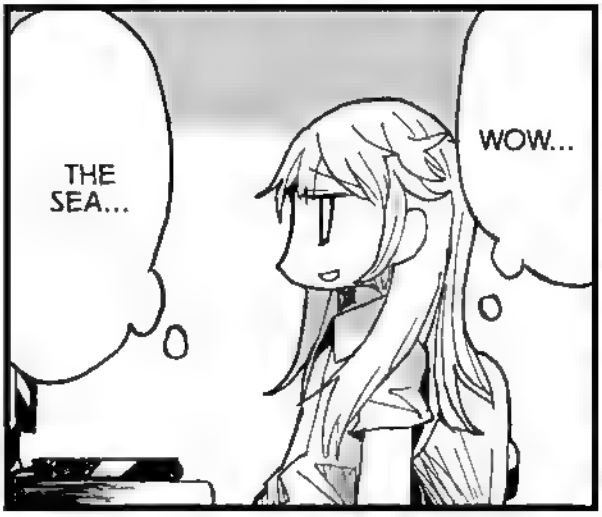
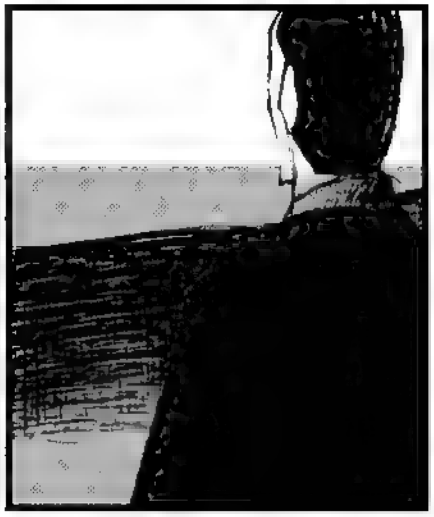
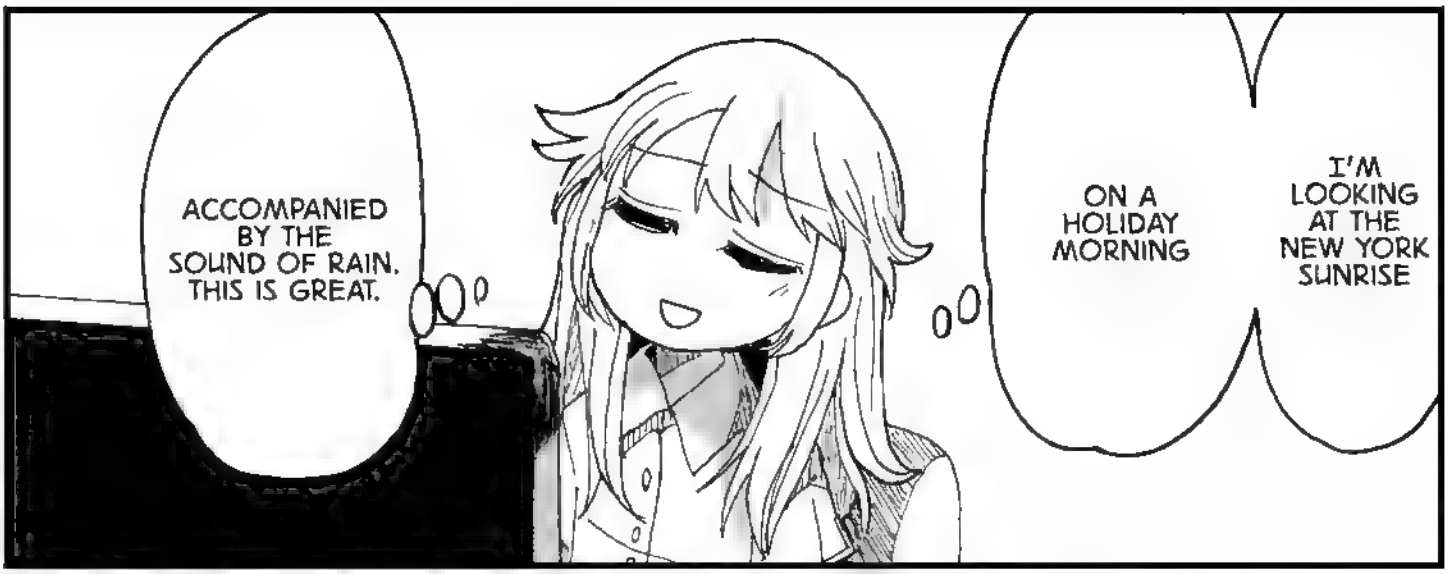
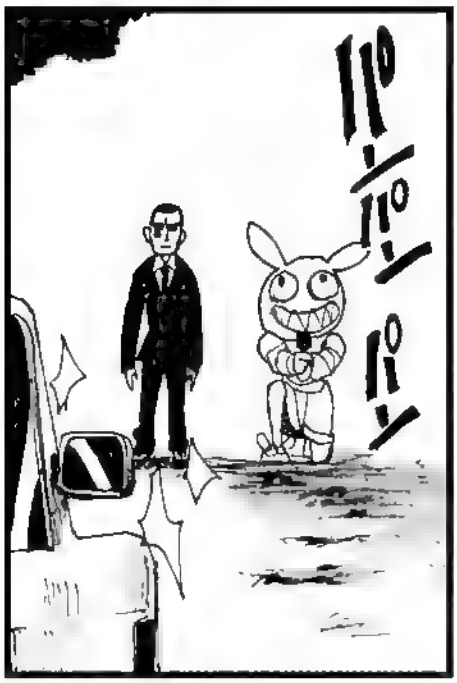

THE SEA...
WOW...



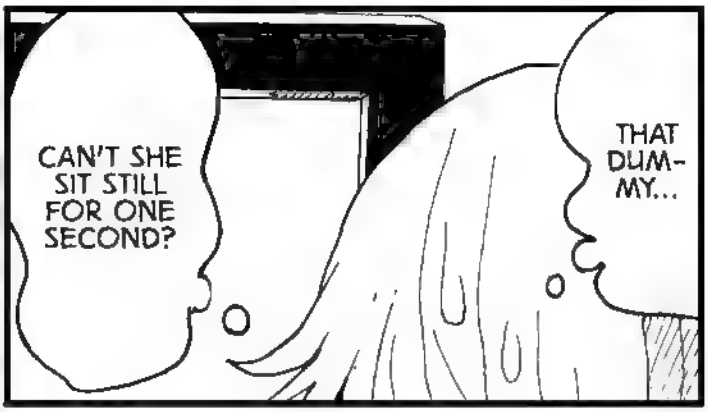

ACCOMPANIED BY THE SOUND OF RAIN. THIS IS GREAT.
ON A HOLIDAY MORNING
I'M LOOKING AT THE NEW YORK SUNRISE

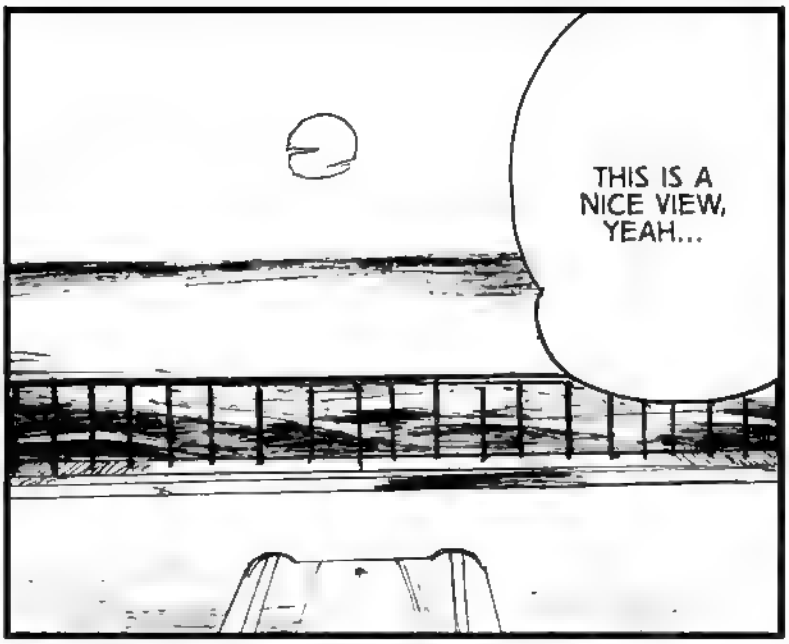


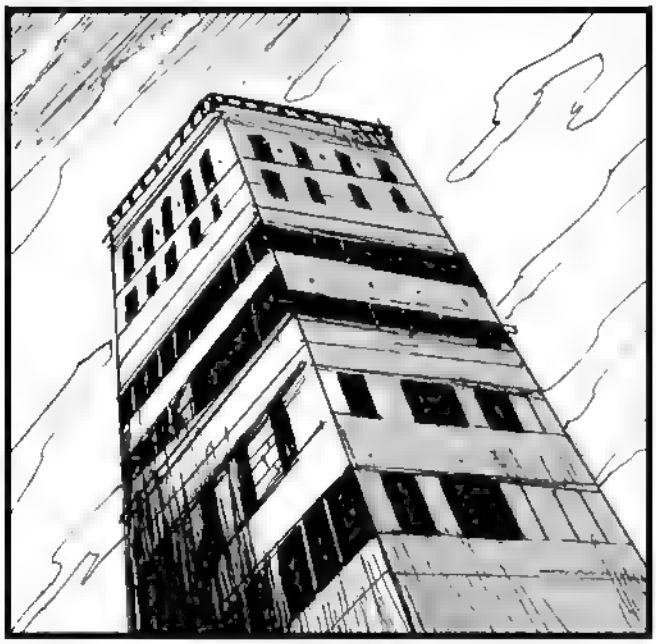
WHERE'S BESHIKO?
HM ...?

: Let's go see an even better place

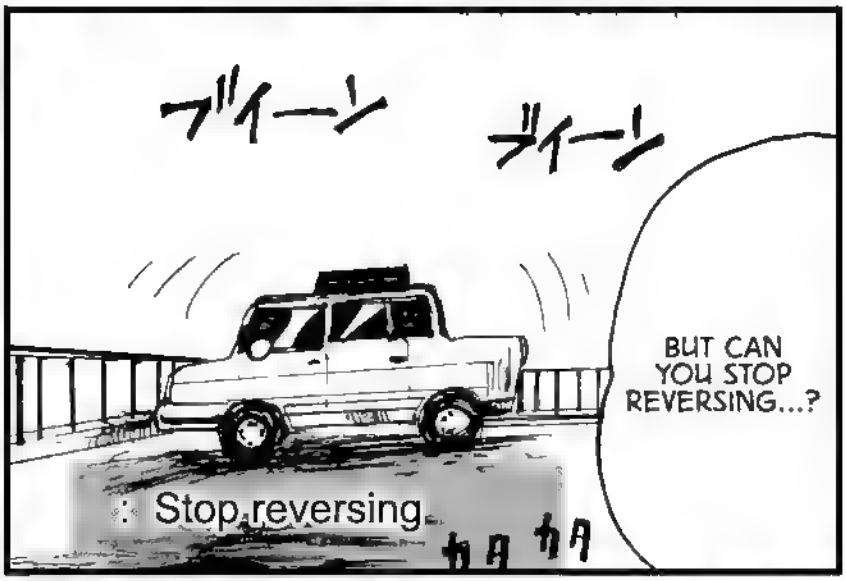
: Got a new car

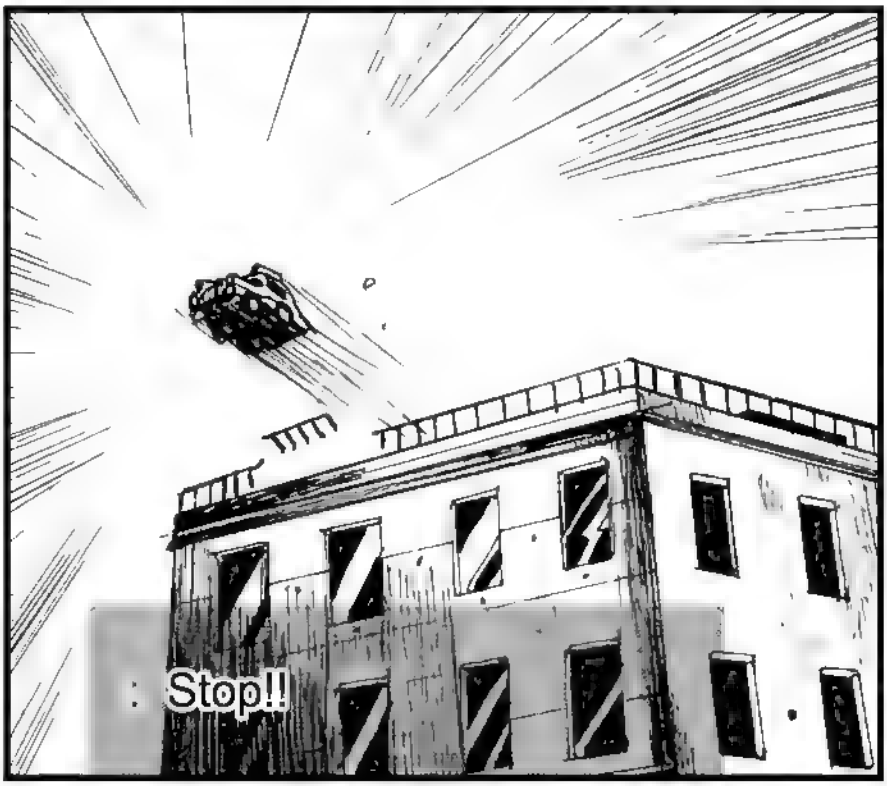

CAN'T SHE SIT STILL FOR ONE SECOND?
THAT DUM-MY...


THIS IS A NICE VIEW, YEAH...

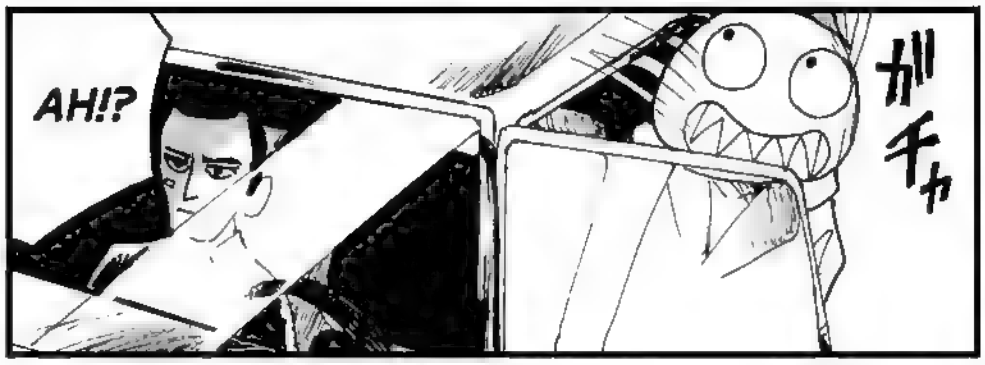


: Here we go

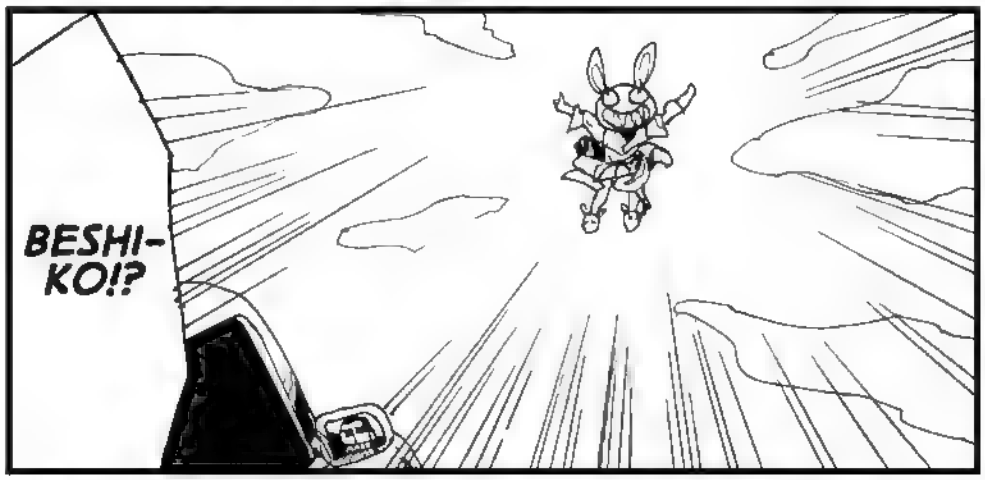

ブイーン
ブイーン
BUT CAN YOU STOP REVERSING...?
: Stop reversing

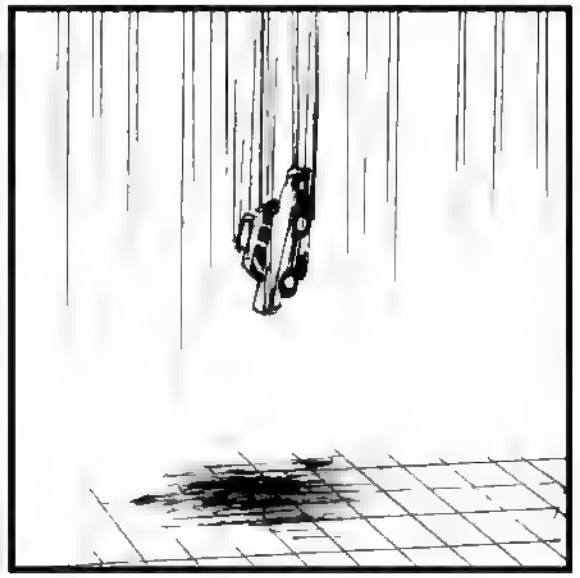

: Stop!!

ギュルルルル
: Wait, are you

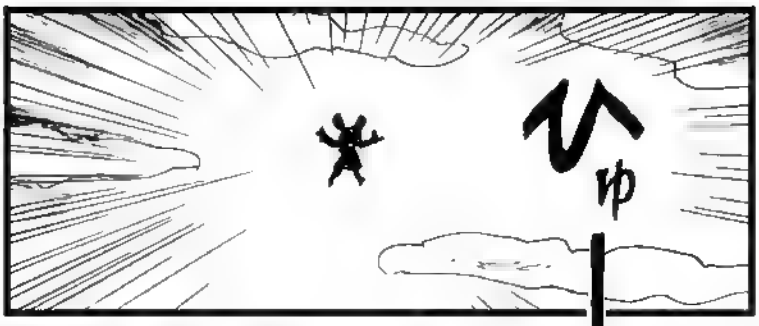

AH!?
ガチャ

HIE-EEE-EEE-EEE-EEE-EEE-EEE-EE!!!


BESHI-KO!?



AAAH...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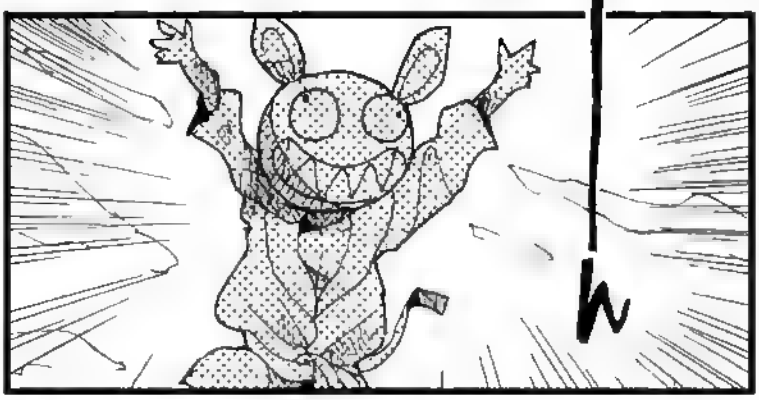

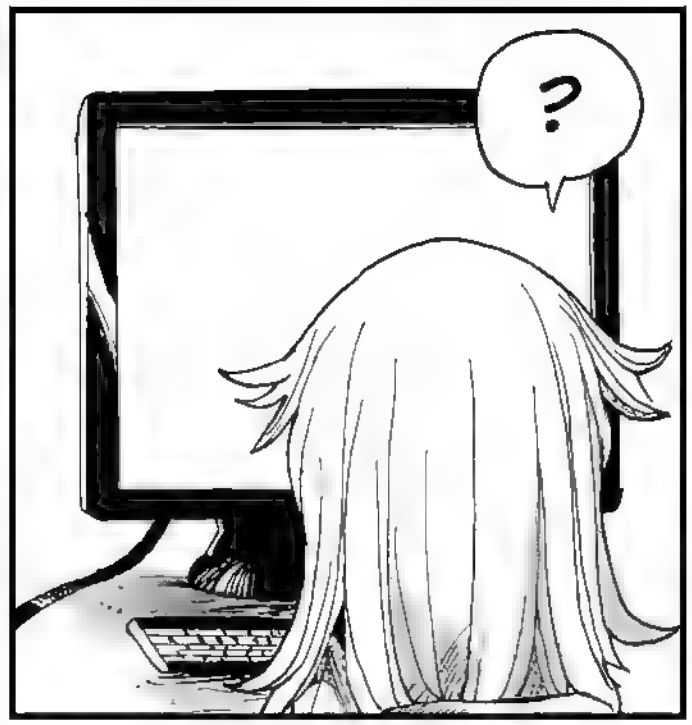
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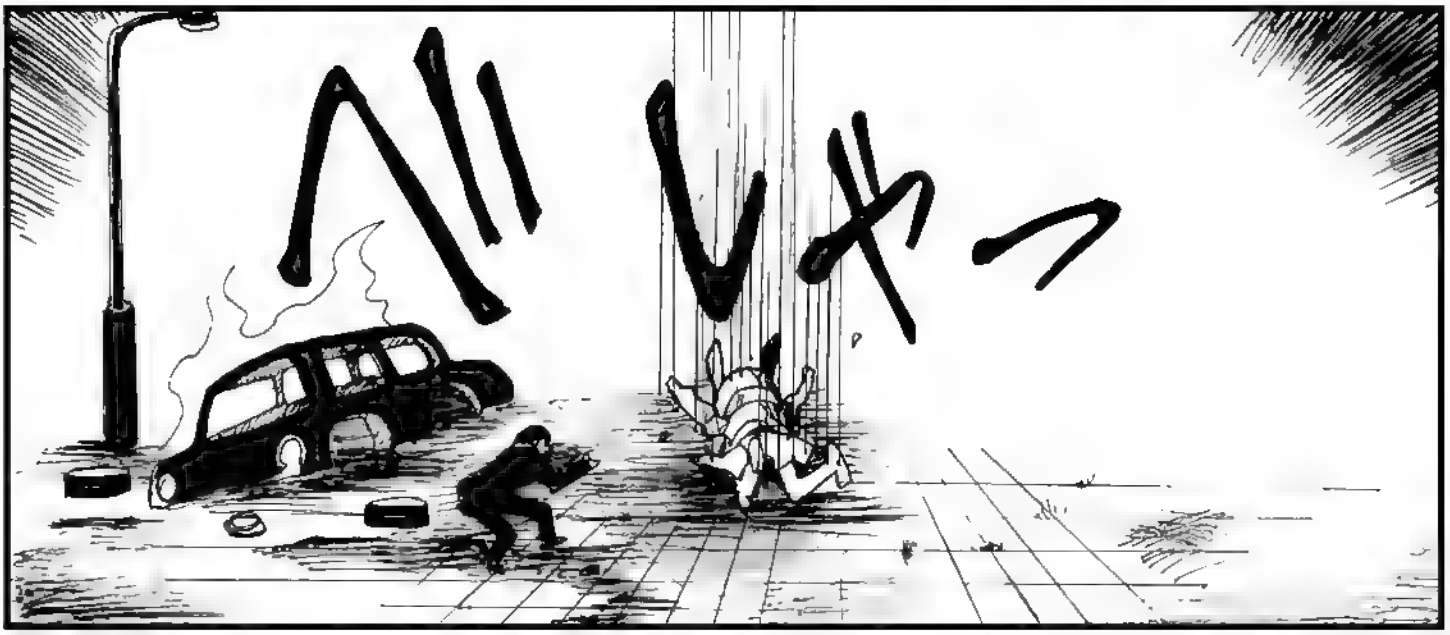
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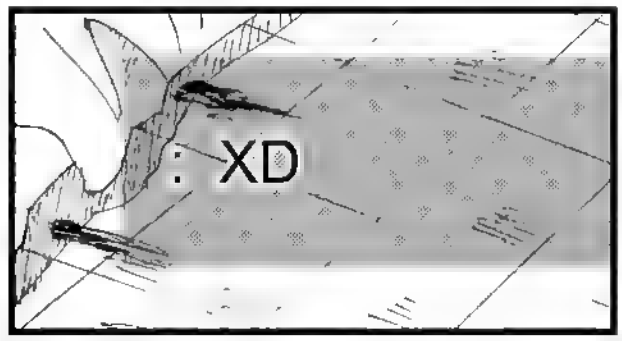

: XD

GAME CLUB ⑤

MONSTER'S AGONY

I'D LIKE TO START THIS MEETING CONCERNING OUR NEXT GAME,

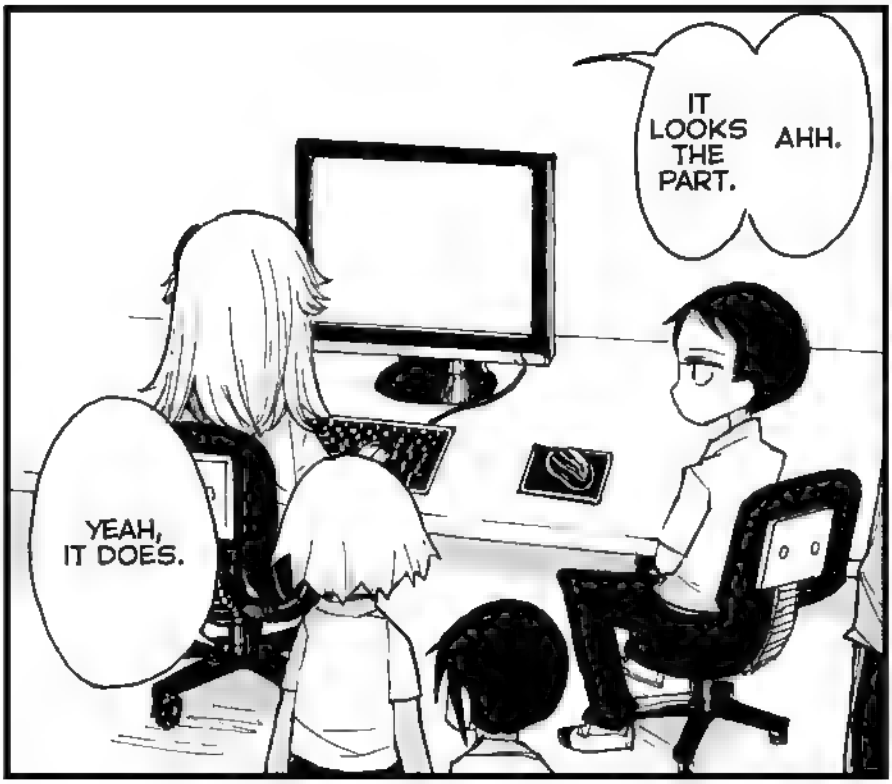
UMM, NOW...

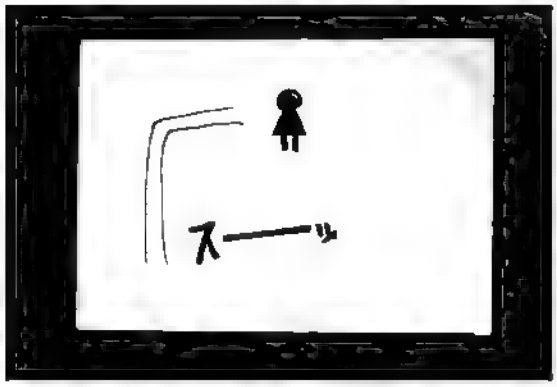
HAS ACTUALLY PREPARED A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR US.

BUT OUR PROGRAMMER

YEEES

SO WE'LL TAKE A LOOK AT IT.


IT LOOKS THE PART.
AHH.
YEAH, IT DOES.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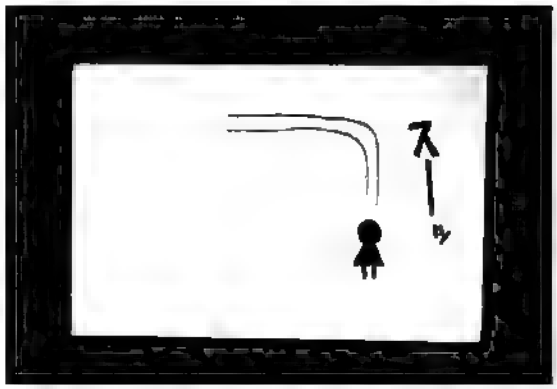
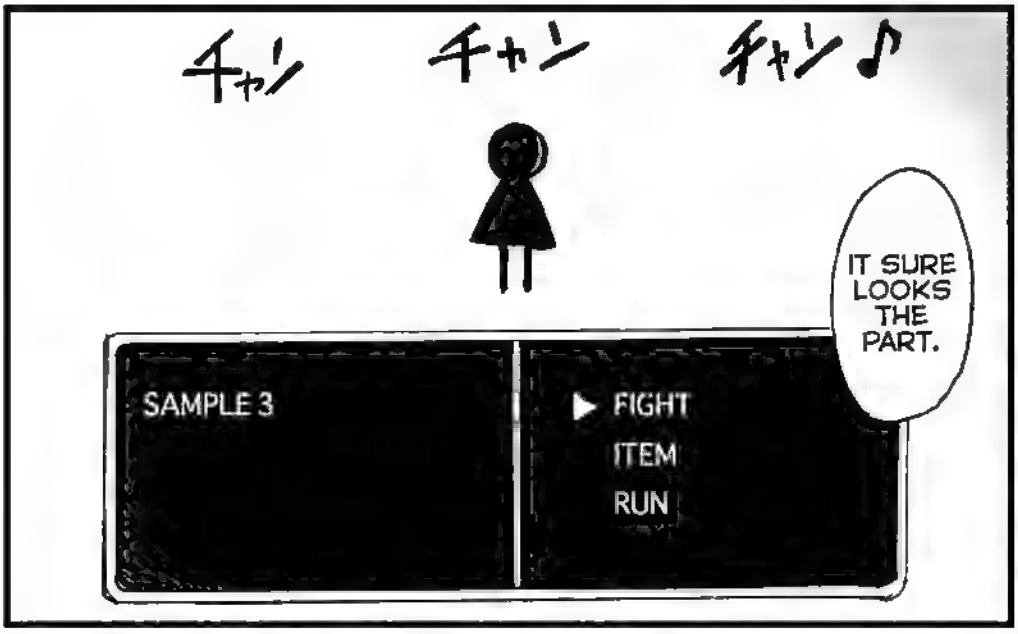
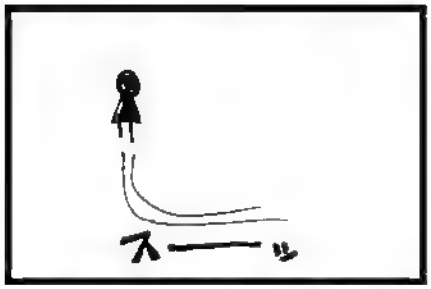
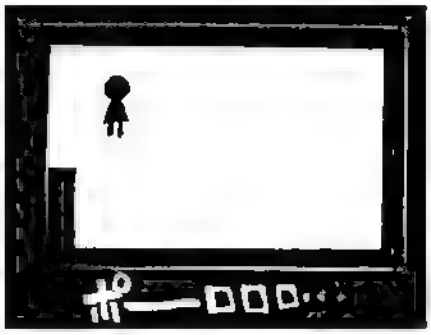
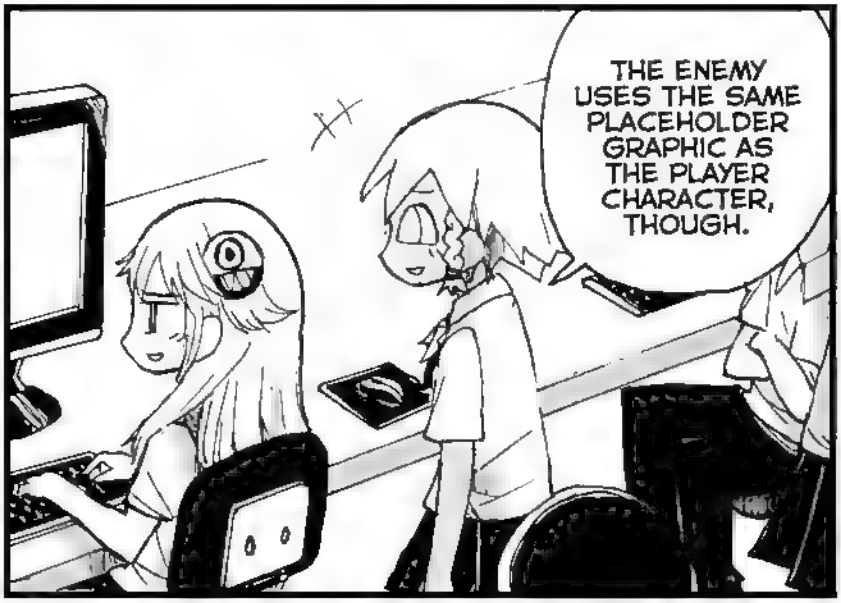

スーッ

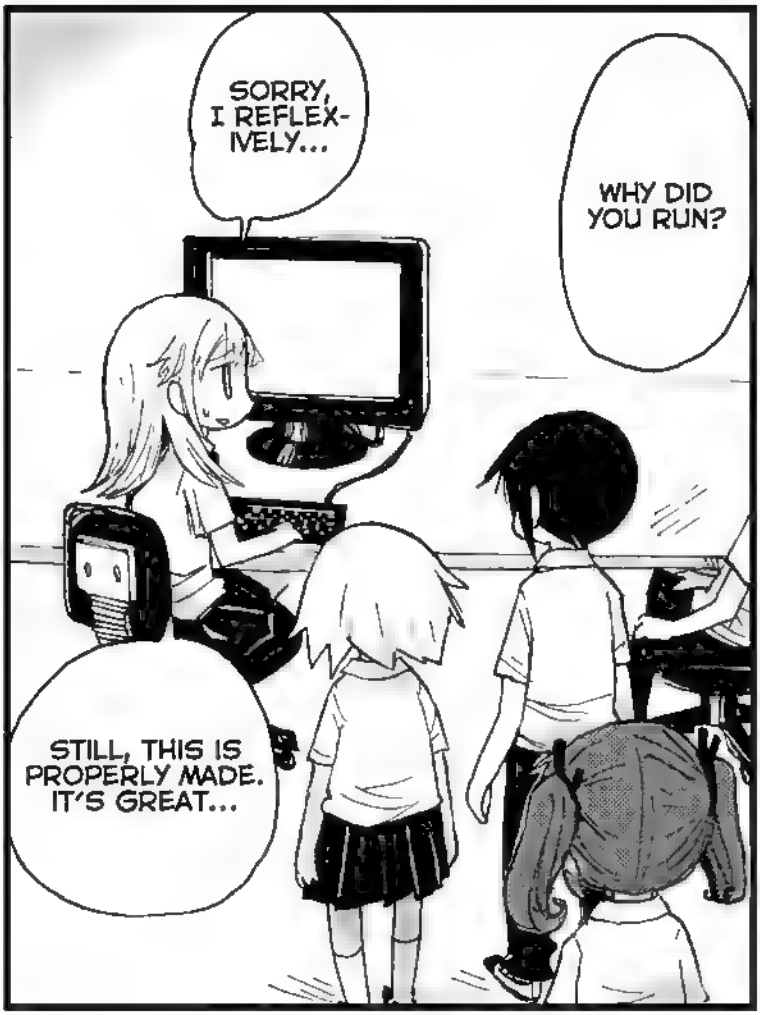

チャン
チャン
チャン♪
IT SURE LOOKS THE PART.
SAMPLE 3
▶ FIGHT
ITEM
RUN

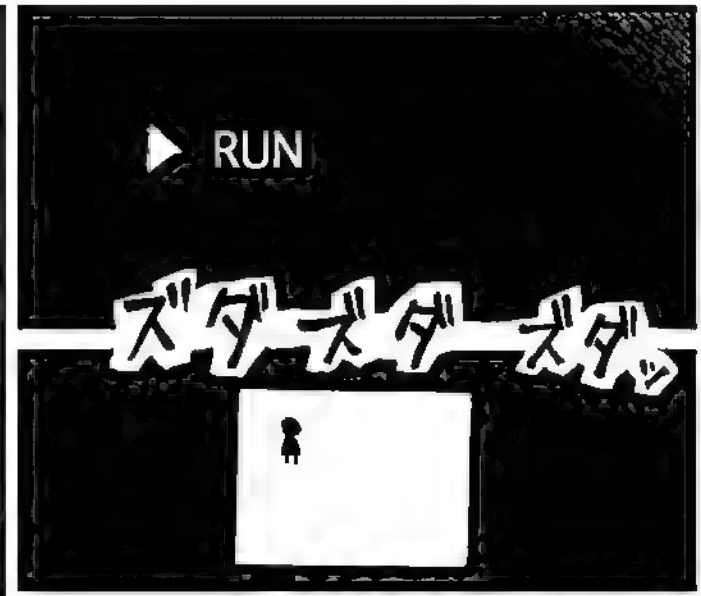

スーッ

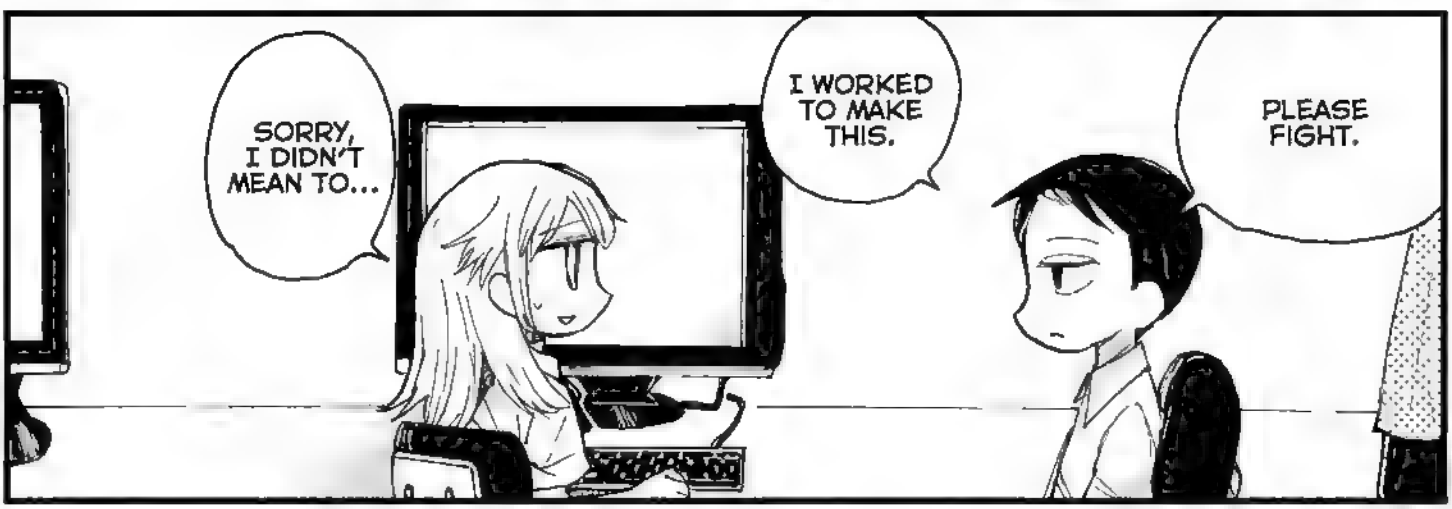

ポーロロロ…

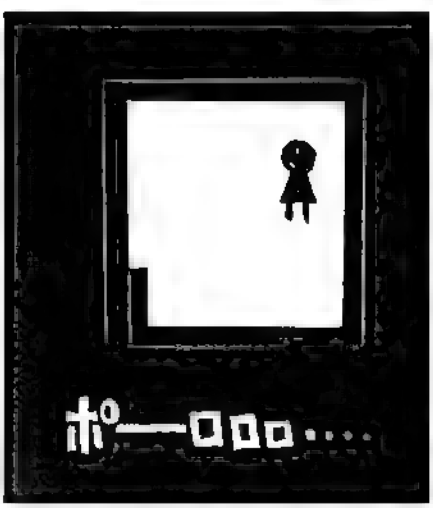
"ITEM",
"FIGHT",
AND "RUN",
IT SAYS.
FIGHT
▶ ITEM
RUN

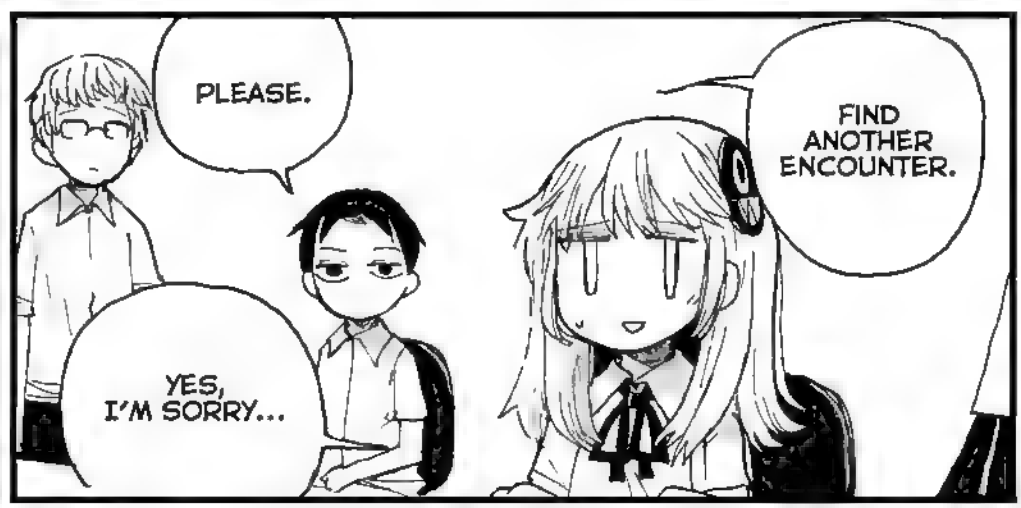

THE ENEMY USES THE SAME PLACEHOLDER GRAPHIC AS THE PLAYER CHARACTER, THOUGH.

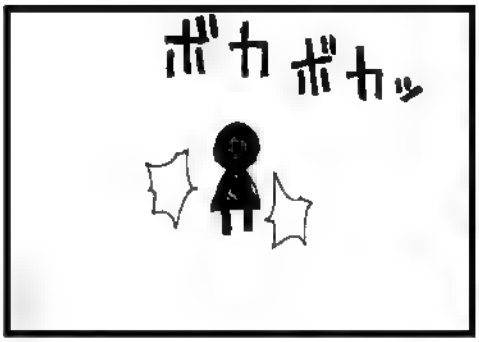

SORRY, I REFLEXIVELY...
WHY DID YOU RUN?
STILL, THIS IS PROPERLY MADE. IT'S GREAT...


RUN
ズダーズダーズダッ


SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO...
I WORKED TO MAKE THIS.
PLEASE FIGHT.




PLEASE.
FIND ANOTHER ENCOUNTER.
YES, I'M SORRY...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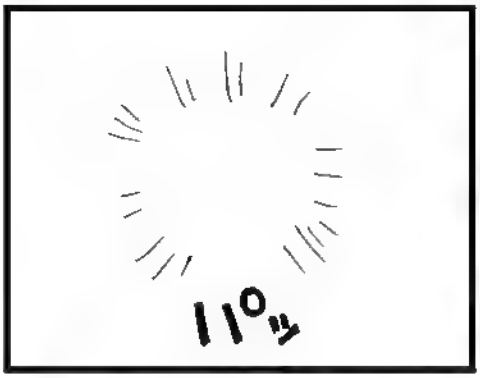
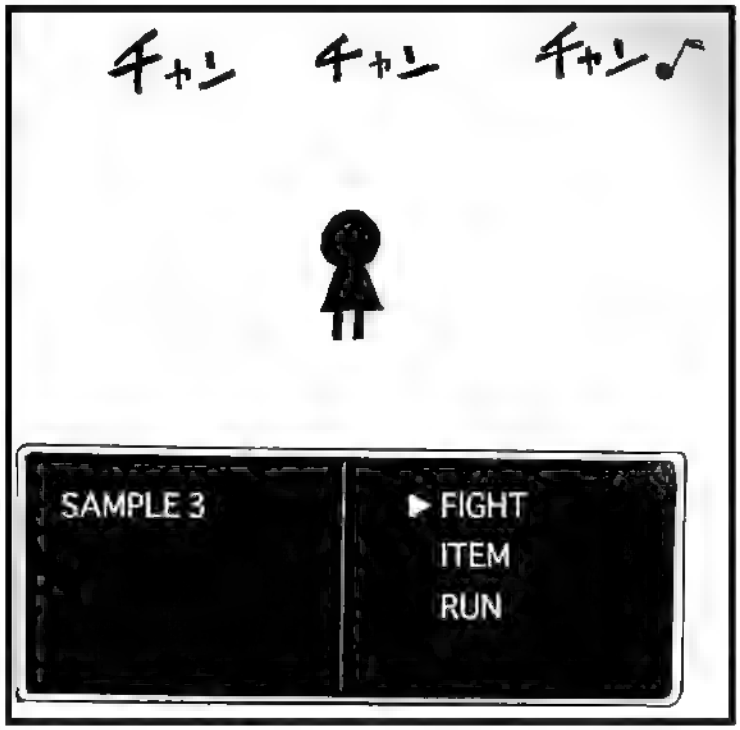
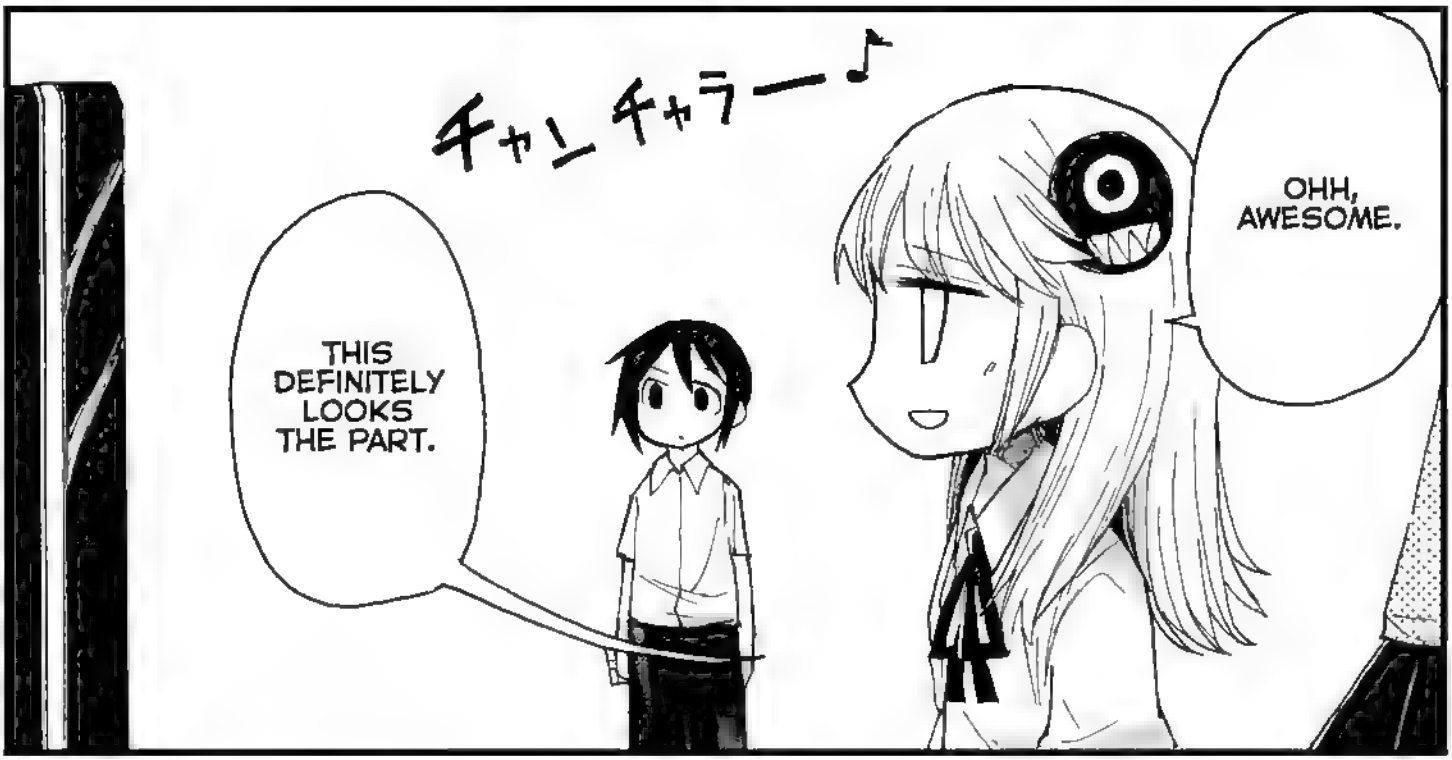
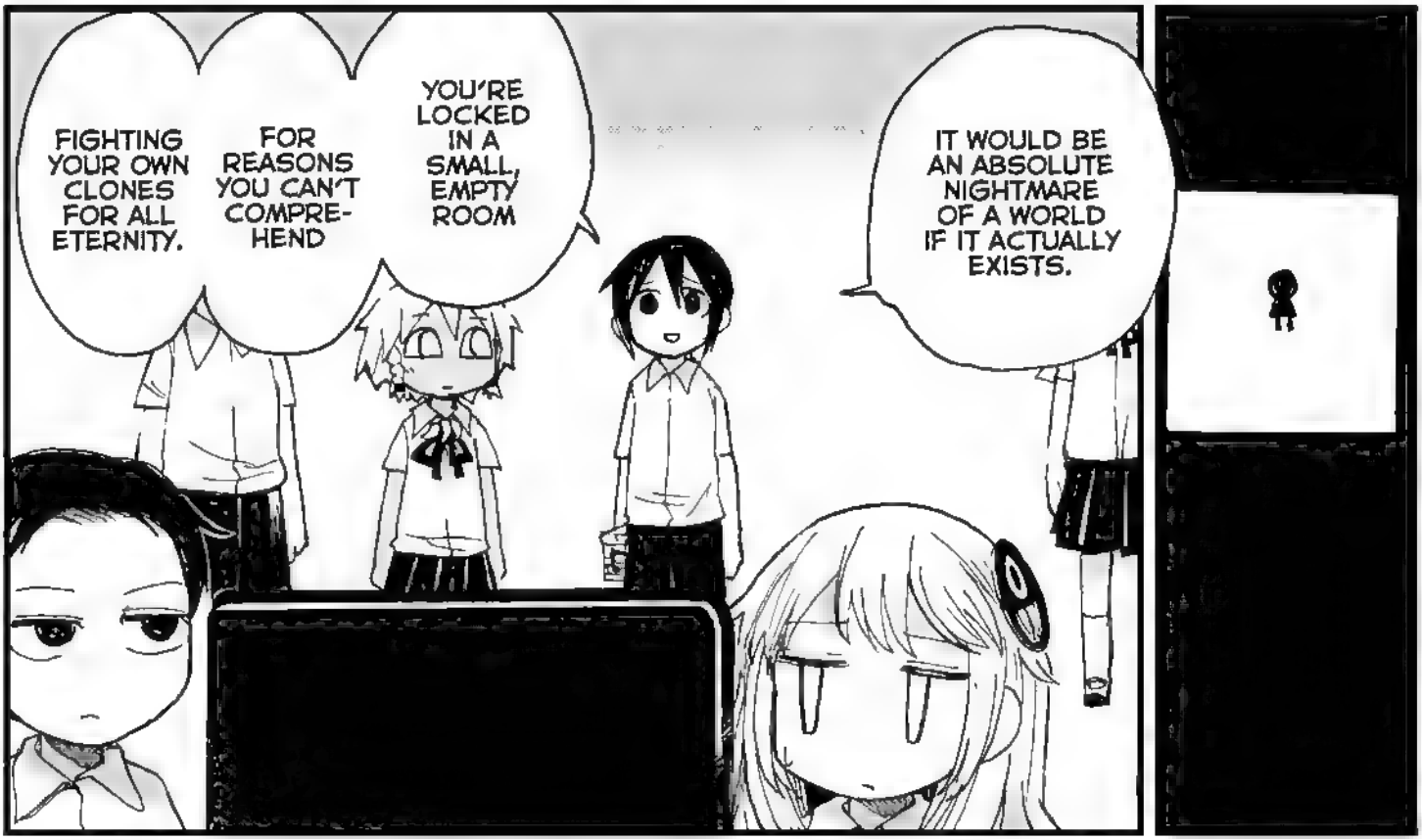

ﾋｭｰﾝ

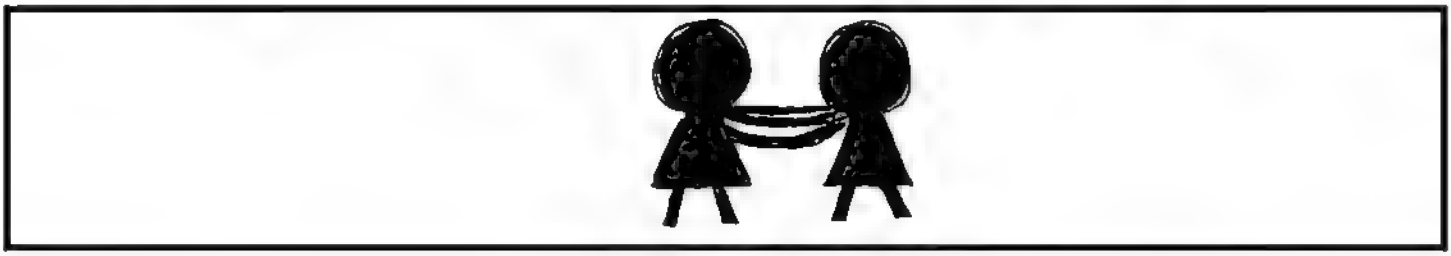
FIGHT


チャン チャン チャン♪
SAMPLE 3
FIGHT
ITEM
RUN

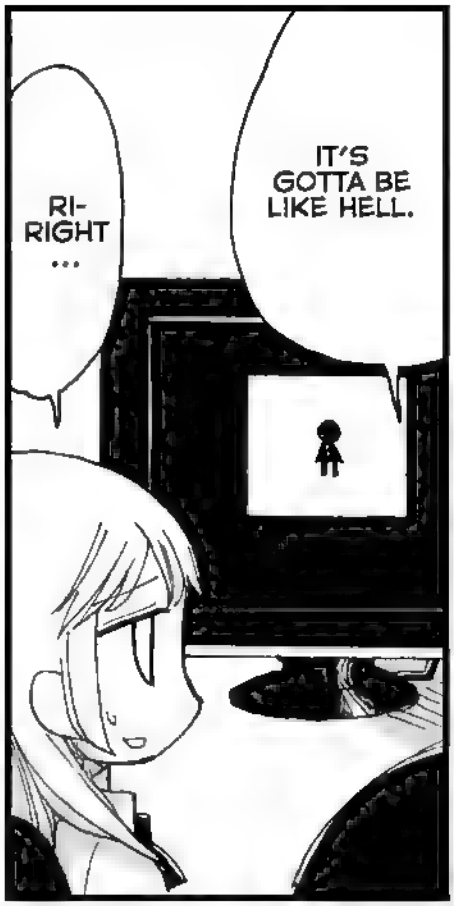

チャンチャラー♪
THIS DEFINITELY LOOKS THE PART.
OHH, AWESOME.

WHAT?
?
CAN I SAY SOMETHING THAT'S KIND OF WHATEVER?
...

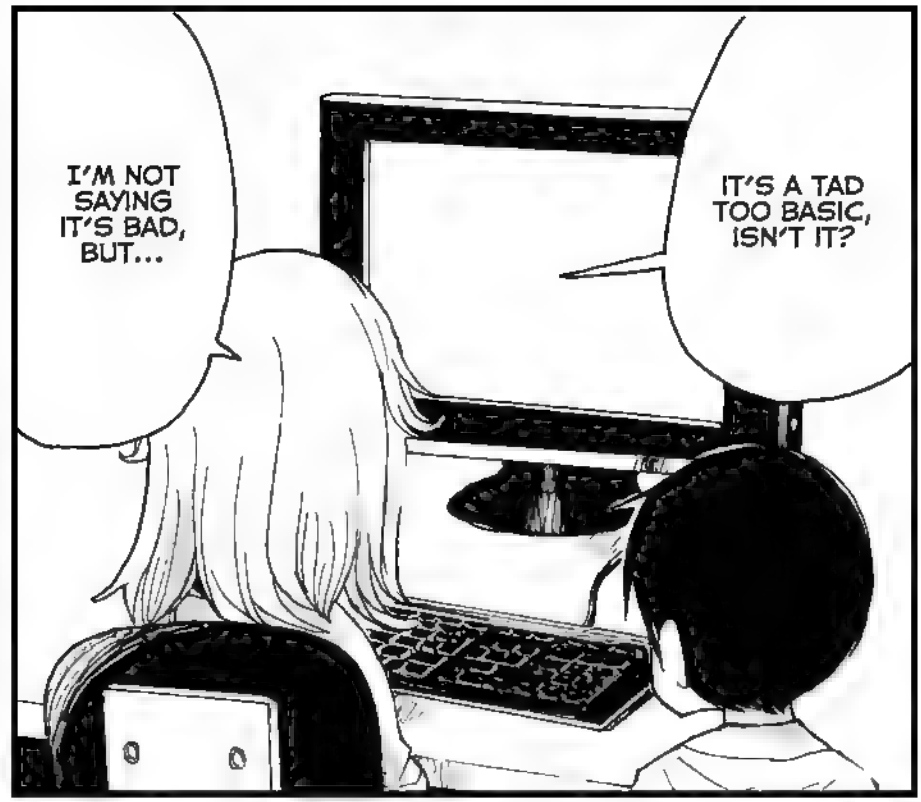

FIGHTING YOUR OWN CLONES FOR ALL ETERNITY.
FOR REASONS YOU CAN'T COMPRE-HEND
YOU'RE LOCKED IN A SMALL, EMPTY ROOM
IT WOULD BE AN ABSOLUTE NIGHTMARE OF A WORLD IF IT ACTUALLY EXISTS.



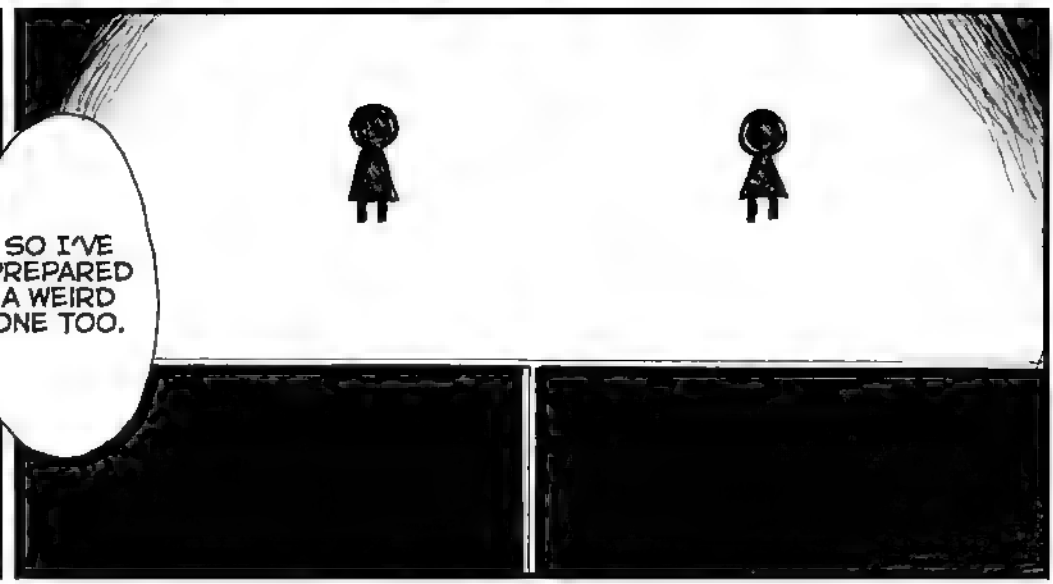
SO,
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
HMM.
RIGHT.
WELL...

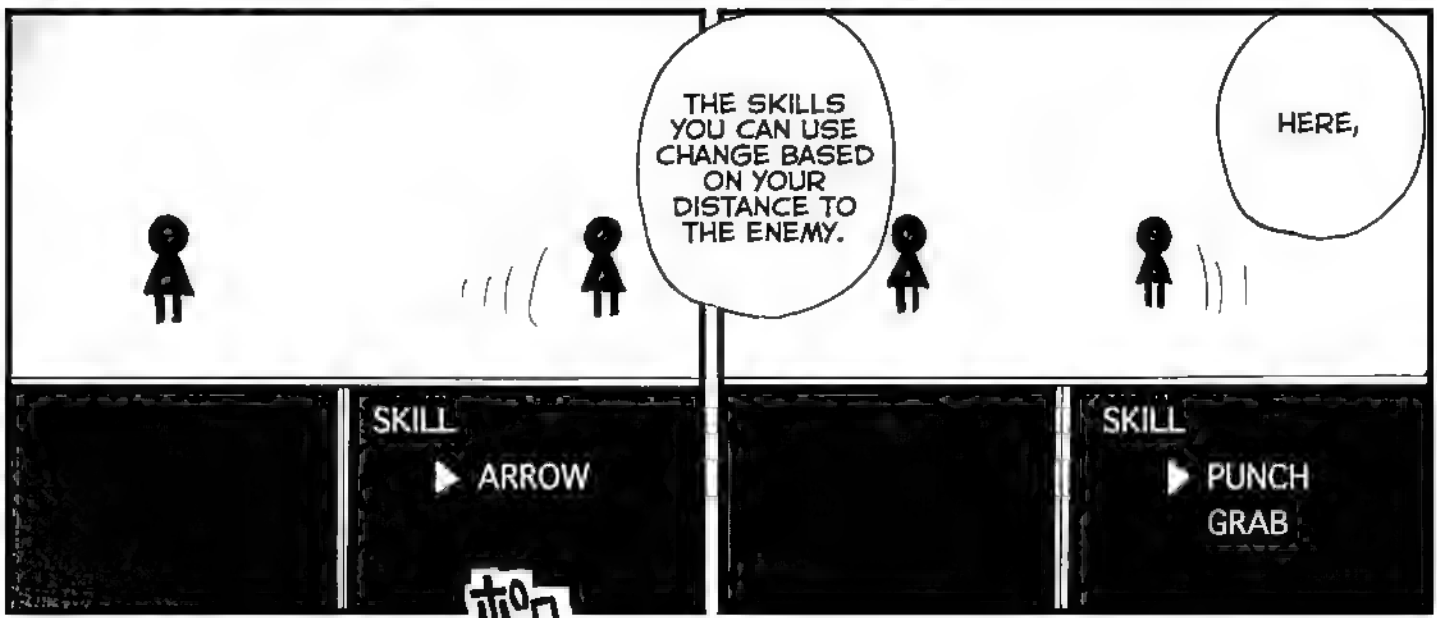

IT'S GOTTA BE LIKE HELL.
RI-RIGHT ...

I THOUGHT YOU'D SAY THAT,


I'M NOT SAYING IT'S BAD, BUT...
IT'S A TAD TOO BASIC, ISN'T IT?

YOU REALLY ARE RE-LIABLE...


SO I'VE PREPARED A WEIRD ONE TOO.


THE SKILLS YOU CAN USE CHANGE BASED ON YOUR DISTANCE TO THE ENEMY.
HERE,
SKILL
ARROW
SKILL
PUNCH
GRAB

YOU'LL MOVE SLOWER THE HEAVIER YOUR ARMOR IS, RIGHT?

AH, I KNOW.

RIGHT.

HMM.

THE ENEMY CAN MOVE TOO, SO GETTING THE DISTANCE YOU WANT IS TRICKY.

I SEE...

YOU CAN GET A GOOD DISTANCE AT THE COST OF LOW DEFENSE...

WITH LIGHT ARMOR,

BUT IT SLOWS YOU DOWN, SO YOU'LL HAVE TO FIGHT AT AN UNFAVORABLE DISTANCE.

HEAVY ARMOR HAS HIGH DEFENSIVE STATS,

THAT'S MOST OF THE GAME DONE, THEN.

HM, SOUNDS PRETTY INTEREST-ING.

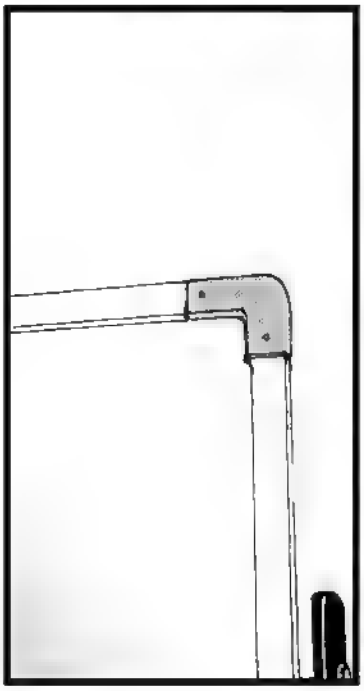
AND WEAPONS FOR SHORT-RANGE

ALSO, THERE ARE WEAPONS THAT ARE GOOD FOR LONG-RANGE

THERE'S PLENTY OF ENEMY TYPES TOO.

HOW IS IT GOING, YOU TWO?
THEN LET'S GET AN UPDATE ON THAT TOO...

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
WE HAVEN'T EVEN DECIDED ON THE SETTING YET.
OH, RIGHT.



WELL... TO BE HONEST, I HAVEN'T MADE MUCH PROGRESS WITH IT.
THAT SO?
LET'S DISCUSS, THEN.

ANYWAY...
I DON'T REALLY WANT
TO MAKE IT ABOUT PEOPLE KILLING EACH OTHER...
HM, HM.

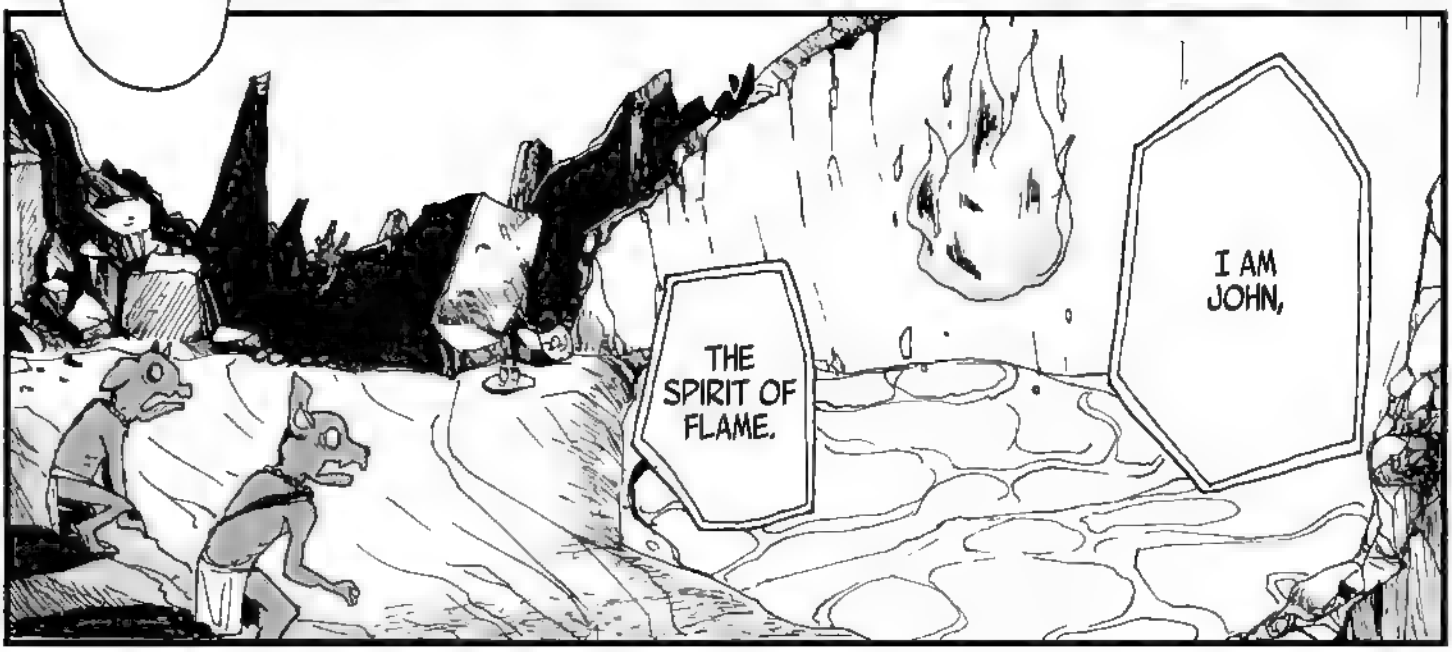
DO YOU MIND IF IT'S NOT PEOPLE?
HUH?
WELL, YEAH... I DON'T THINK I'LL MIND AS MUCH IF THEY'RE NOT HUMAN...
I SEE ...

SO...
AH, I'VE GOT A GOOD IDEA.
LET'S MAKE IT LIKE THIS.

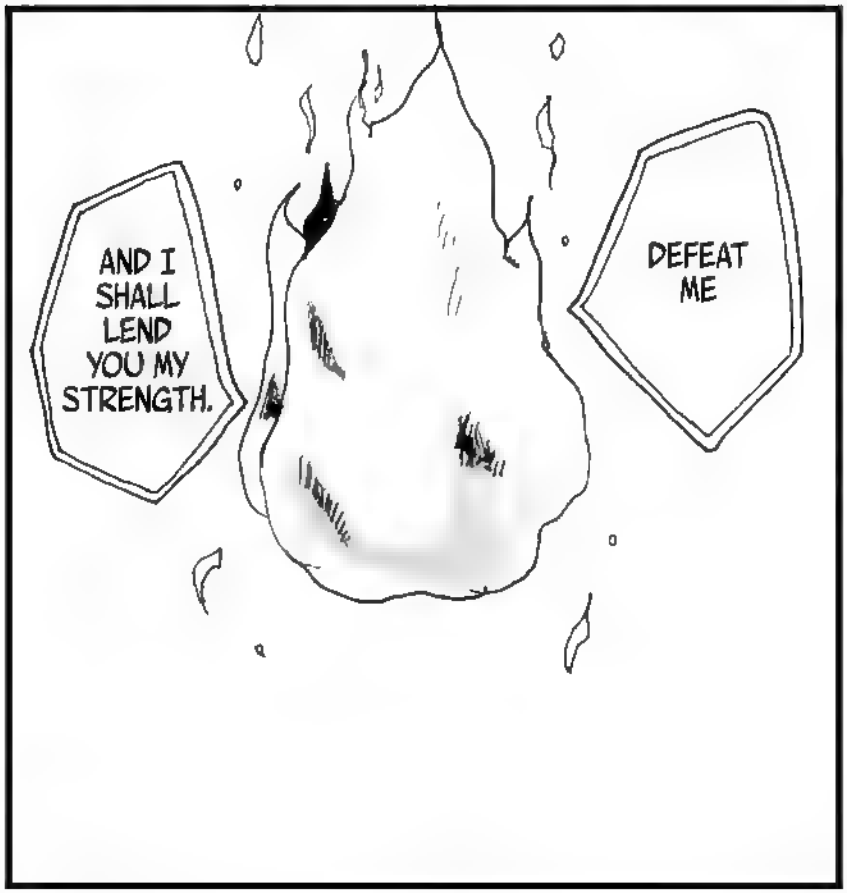
WAY BEFORE THE START OF THE GAME,
HUMANITY HAS ALREADY INTELLECTUALLY EVOLVED AND STOPPED GOING INTO WARS...
THEY'VE MAYBE MIGRATED TO OTHER PEACEFUL PLANETS OR SUCH...
THEY'VE ASCENDED THEIR PHYSICAL BODIES AND TURNED ASTRAL,
BECOMING SPIRITS THAT WATCH OVER THE EARTH.

WHAT IF WE MAKE IT ABOUT MONSTERS, THAT ARE MORE VIOLENT THAN HUMANS, AT THE BRINK OF DES-TRUCTION...
AND HAVE THEM BE THE ONES FIGHTING EACH OTHER?

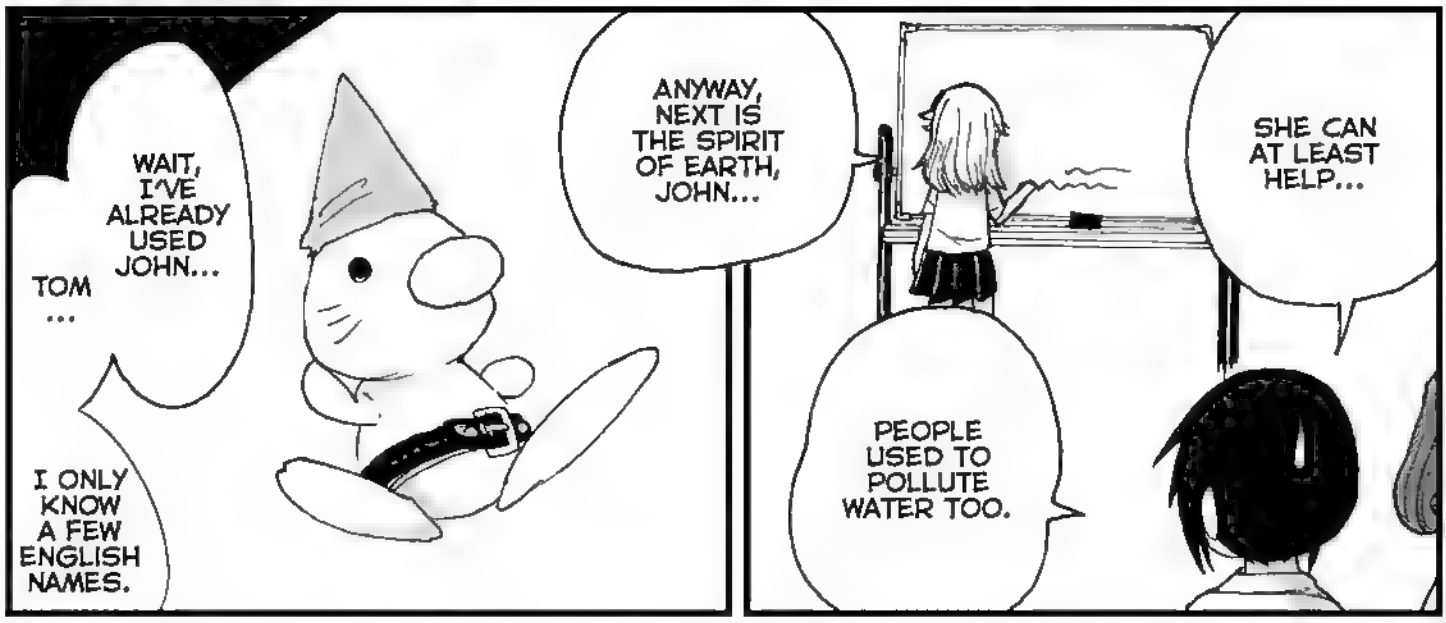
HUMANS SHOW UP IN THE GAME
SO,
AS THESE SPIRITS.
PEOPLE AREN'T THAT AMAZING.
THAT'S JUST TOO MUCH...

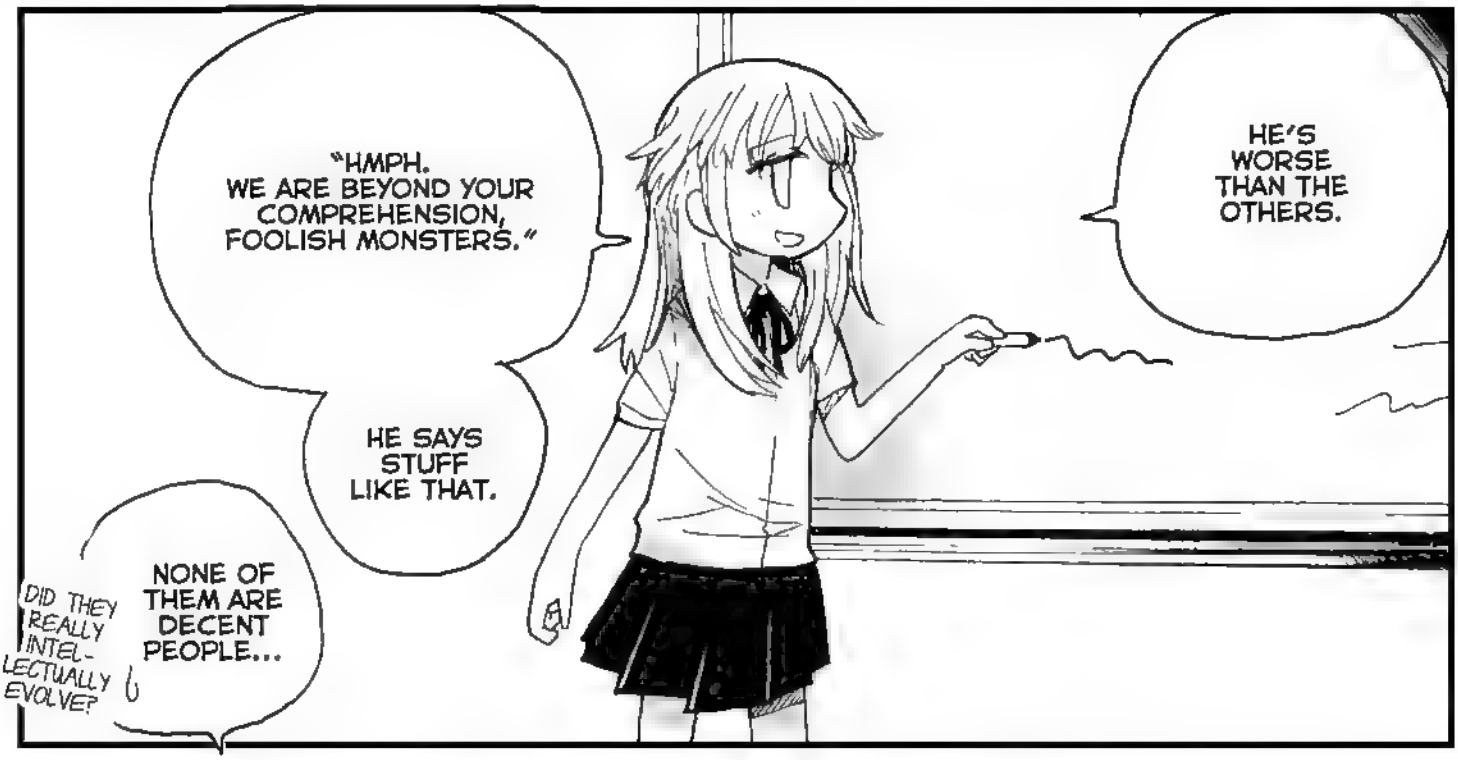

THE SPIRIT OF FLAME.
I AM JOHN,

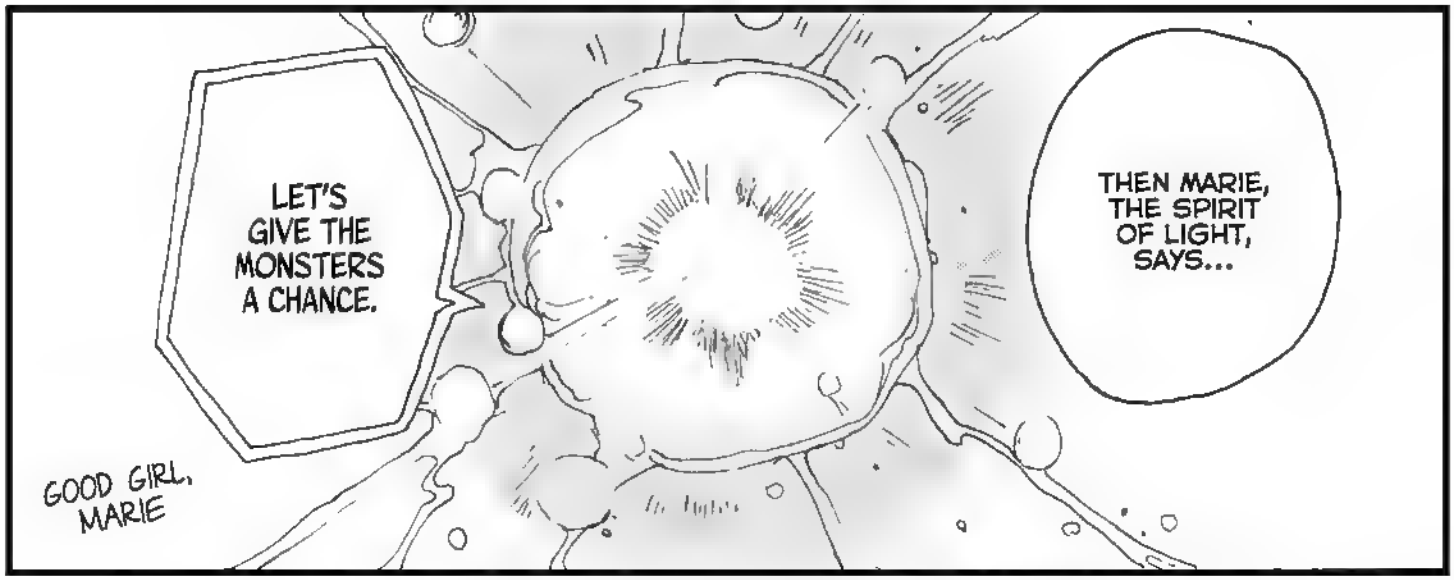
SOME ARE EVEN WORSE.
WOW, HE'S SO CONDE-SCEND-ING...

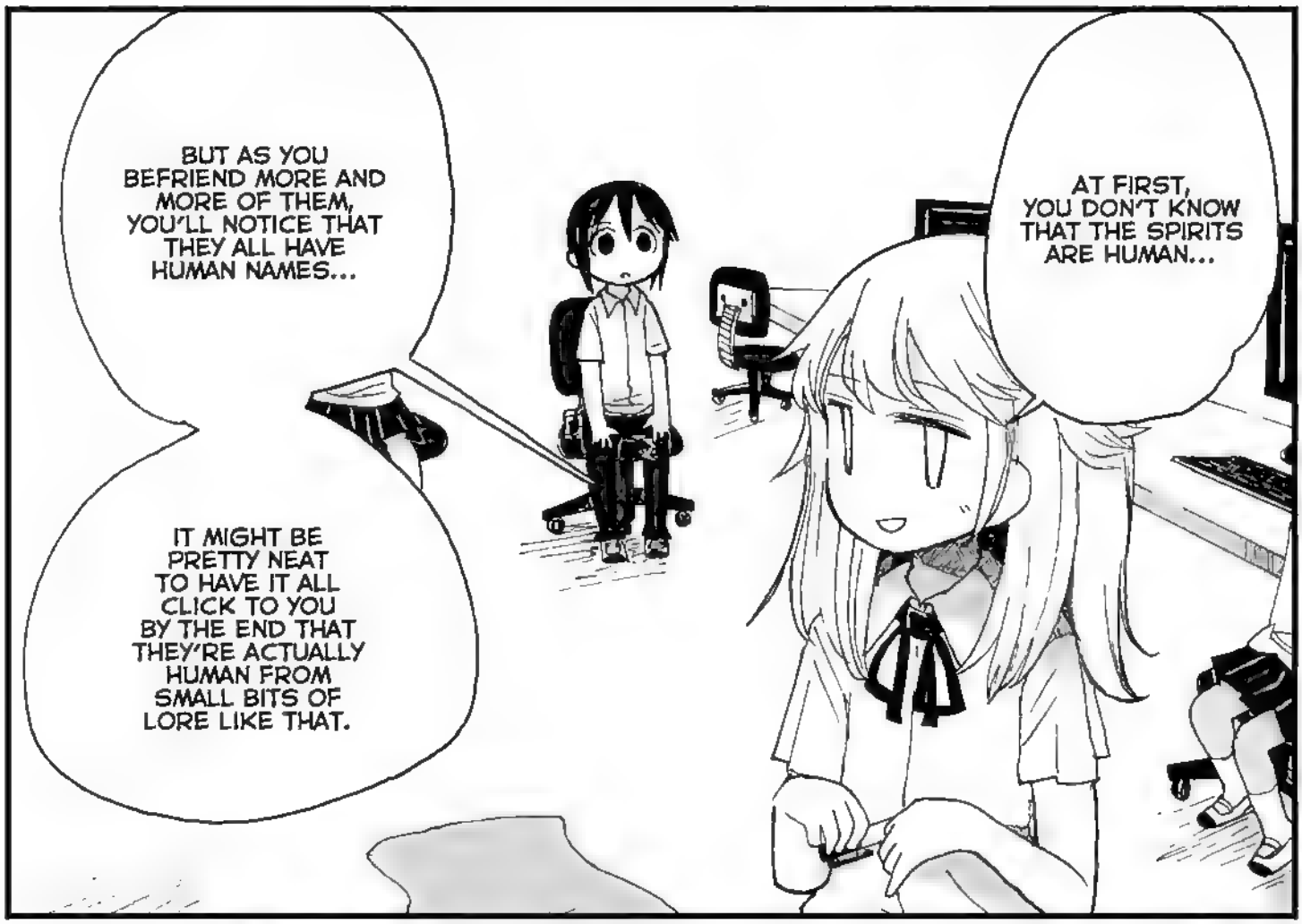

AND I SHALL LEND YOU MY STRENGTH.
DEFEAT ME

YOU'RE FILTHY!
NO WAY. I'M NOT GOING TO HELP MONSTERS.
CATHERINE, THE SPIRIT OF WATER.


WAIT, I'VE ALREADY USED JOHN...
TOM ...
I ONLY KNOW A FEW ENGLISH NAMES.
ANYWAY, NEXT IS THE SPIRIT OF EARTH, JOHN...
SHE CAN AT LEAST HELP...
PEOPLE USED TO POLLUTE WATER TOO.

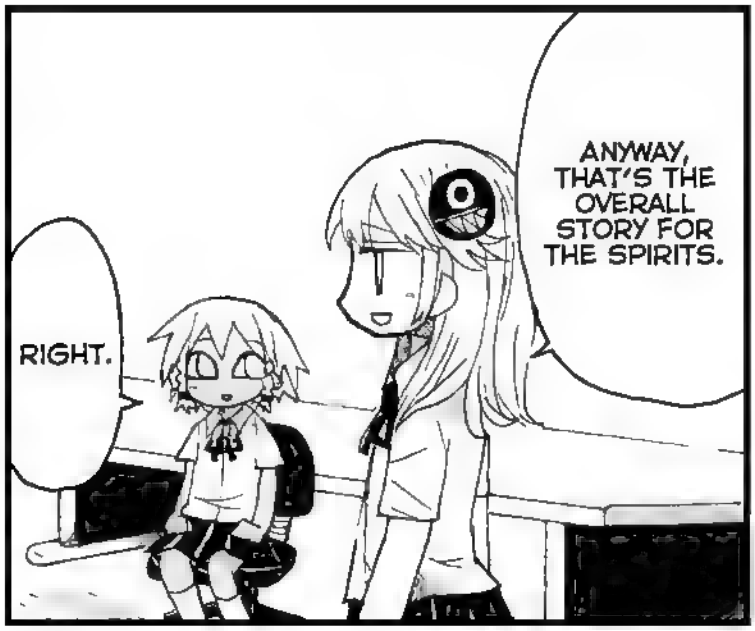

"HMPH. WE ARE BEYOND YOUR COMPREHENSION, FOOLISH MONSTERS."
HE'S WORSE THAN THE OTHERS.
HE SAYS STUFF LIKE THAT.
NONE OF THEM ARE DECENT PEOPLE...
DID THEY REALLY INTEL-LECTUALLY EVOLVE?


LET'S GIVE THE MONSTERS A CHANCE.
THEN MARIE, THE SPIRIT OF LIGHT, SAYS...
GOOD GIRL, MARIE


BUT AS YOU BEFRIEND MORE AND MORE OF THEM, YOU'LL NOTICE THAT THEY ALL HAVE HUMAN NAMES...
AT FIRST, YOU DON'T KNOW THAT THE SPIRITS ARE HUMAN...
IT MIGHT BE PRETTY NEAT TO HAVE IT ALL CLICK TO YOU BY THE END THAT THEY'RE ACTUALLY HUMAN FROM SMALL BITS OF LORE LIKE THAT.

WELL, THAT'S THE GIST OF IT.
NAMED NOBUHIRO OR SUCH...
SOME ARE JAPANESE TOO...

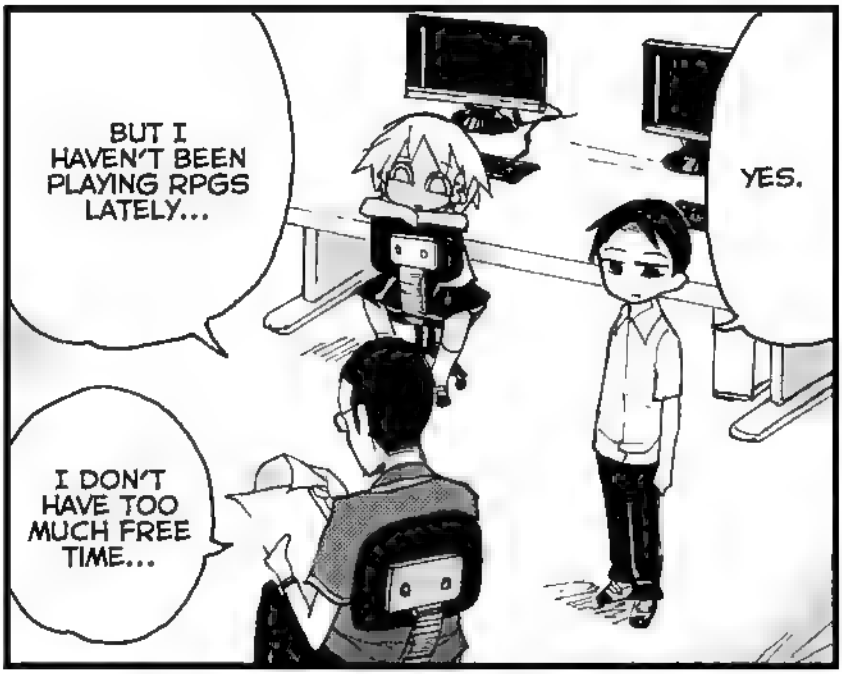
DRAW THEM, OKAY?
I'M LEAVING IT TO YOU TO DESIGN THE MONSTERS, SUWA-KUN.
YEEES


RIGHT.
ANYWAY, THAT'S THE OVERALL STORY FOR THE SPIRITS.

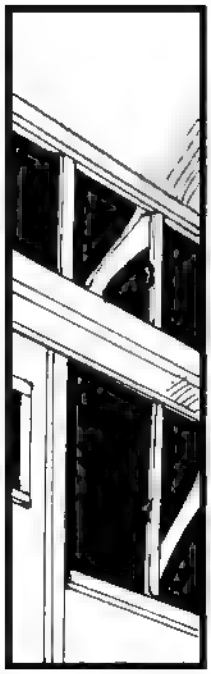
!
ALREADY AM
AND BESHIKO... STANDBY!

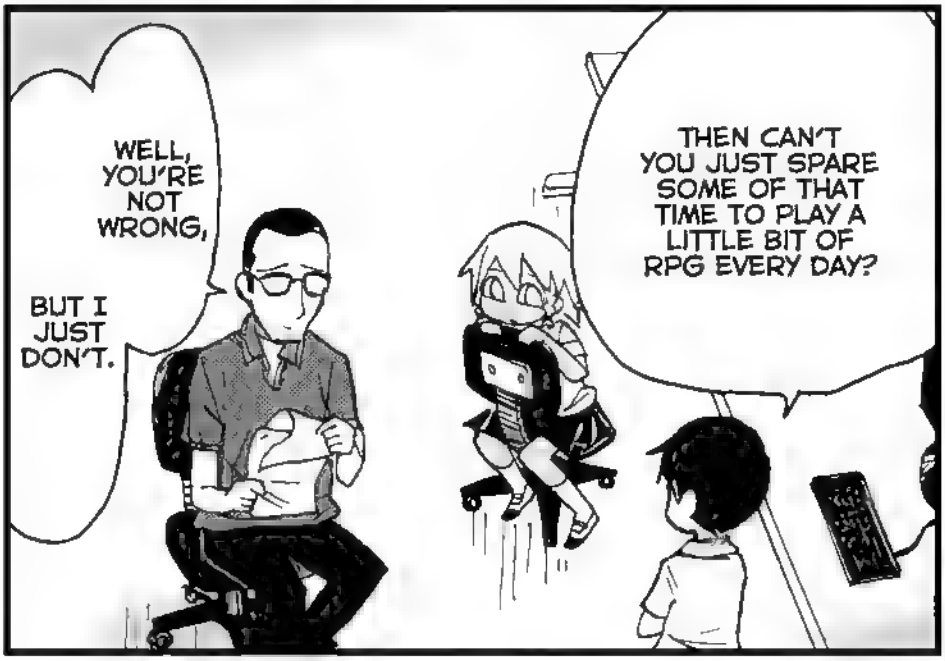
FEEL FREE TO WRITE ANY-THING.
MORISHITA-CHAN, YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THE SETTING AND SCENARIO.

I'M GLAD THERE ARE MORE OF US NOW.
PHEW, SPLITTING WORK SURE IS NICE.


BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN PLAYING RPGS LATELY...
YES.
I DON'T HAVE TOO MUCH FREE TIME...

SO YOU'RE MAKING AN RPG NEXT. ABOUT TIME, HUH?
HMM.




WELL, YOU'RE NOT WRONG,
BUT I JUST DON'T.
THEN CAN'T YOU JUST SPARE SOME OF THAT TIME TO PLAY A LITTLE BIT OF RPG EVERY DAY?

WELL... YEAH.
BUT YOU DO PLAY OTHER GAMES, RIGHT?

GEH...

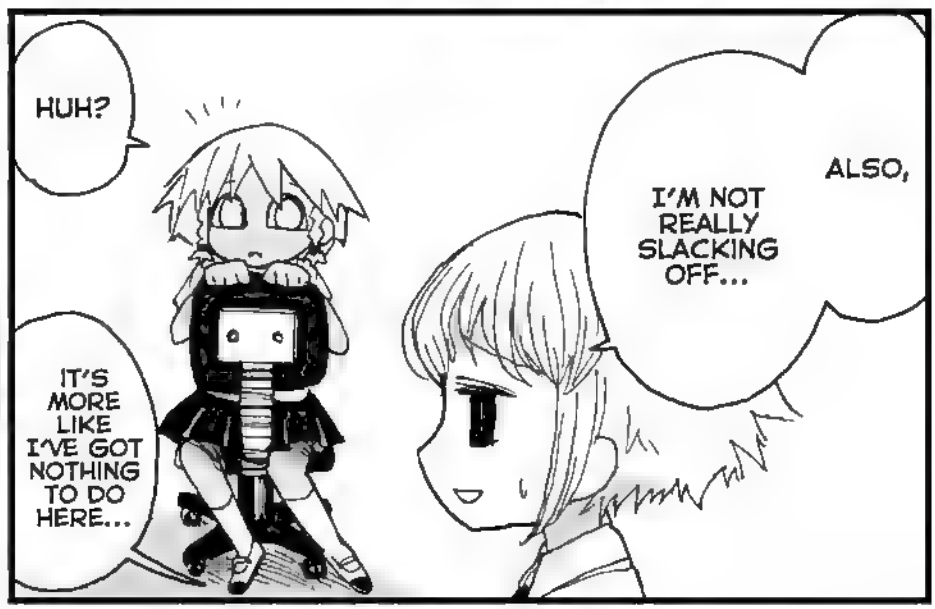
HEY, KAI! COME HERE!
SEN-SEI'S HERE!

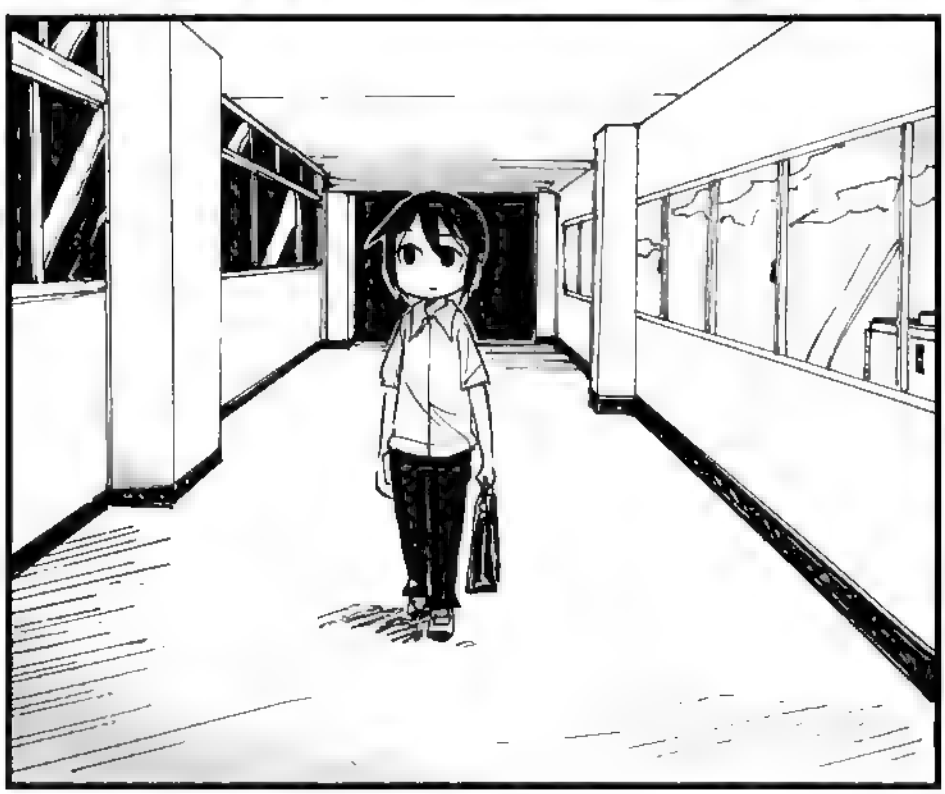
ガラガラ
HEYA.
BEEN SLACK-ING OFF, PEOPLE?

I DON'T KNOW... SHE HASN'T EVEN BEEN ATTENDING SCHOOL...
ANYWAY, WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOSHI-ZAKI?

I'M HERE TODAY, AREN'T I?
COME ON.
YOU HAVE TO SHOW UP FOR CLUB.
LIS-TEN HERE ...

I MEAN, I'M SURE YOU CAN TELL HOW MUCH OF A BAD IDEA IT IS TO GIVE A JOB TO SOMEONE THAT BARELY EVER SHOWS UP.


HUH?
IT'S MORE LIKE I'VE GOT NOTHING TO DO HERE...
ALSO, I'M NOT REALLY SLACKING OFF...



THE NEXT DAY

I'VE DRAWN PLENTY OF STUFF RIGHT AWAY.
HERE, PREZ.

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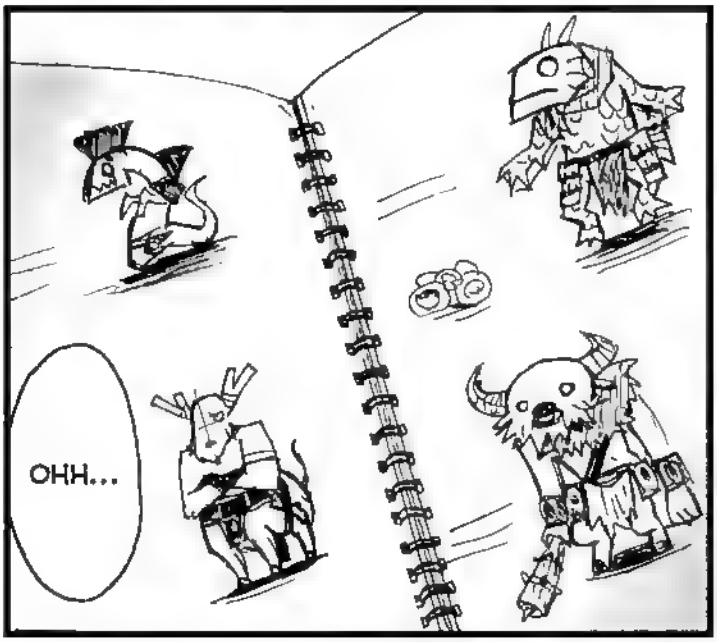
GOOD WORK.
HEY.

OHH...

YAAAY.
NICE.
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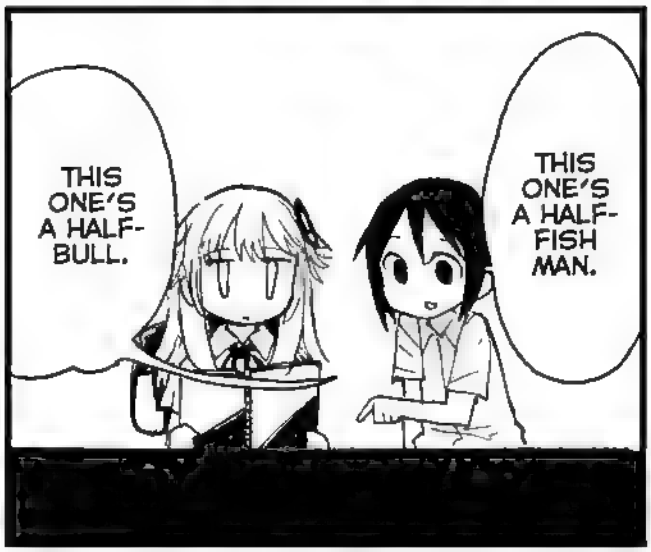
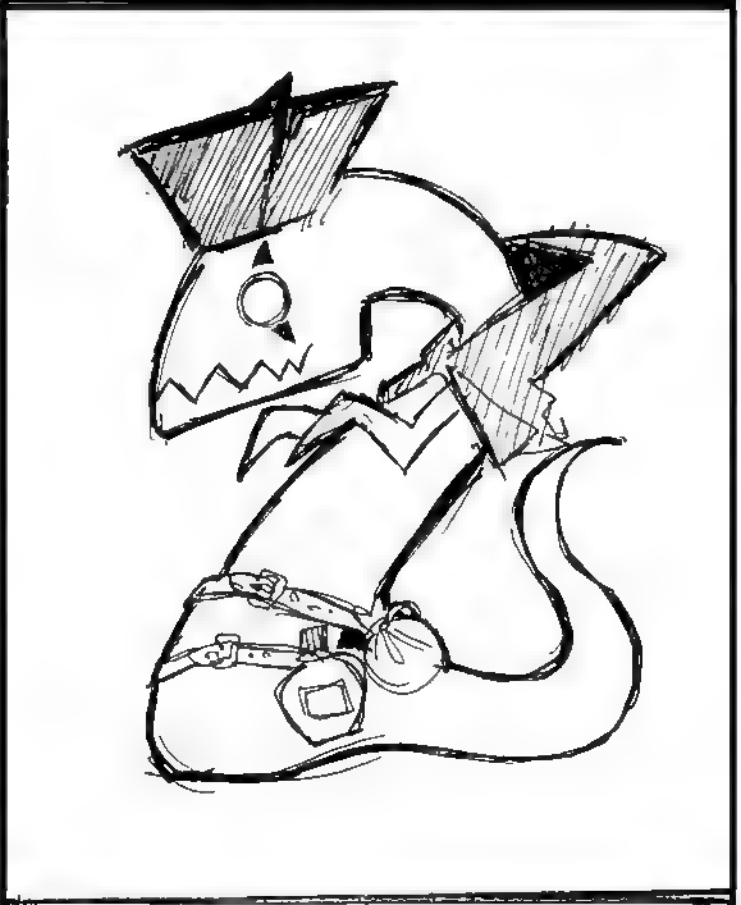
HOH, IT'S NEAT. PRETTY CREEPY...
THERE'S MORE, LIKE A HALF-SNAKE.

THIS ONE'S A HALF-BULL.
THIS ONE'S A HALF-FISH MAN.

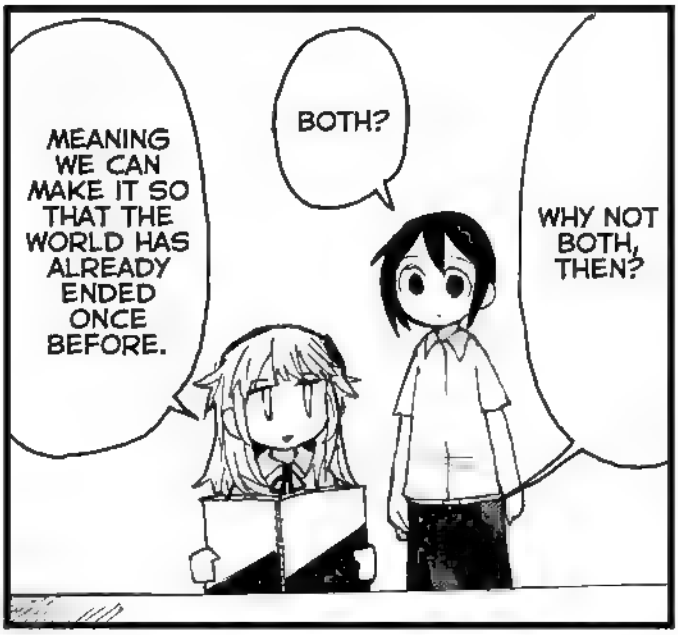
BULL-TYPE

FISH-TYPE

DEER-TYPE

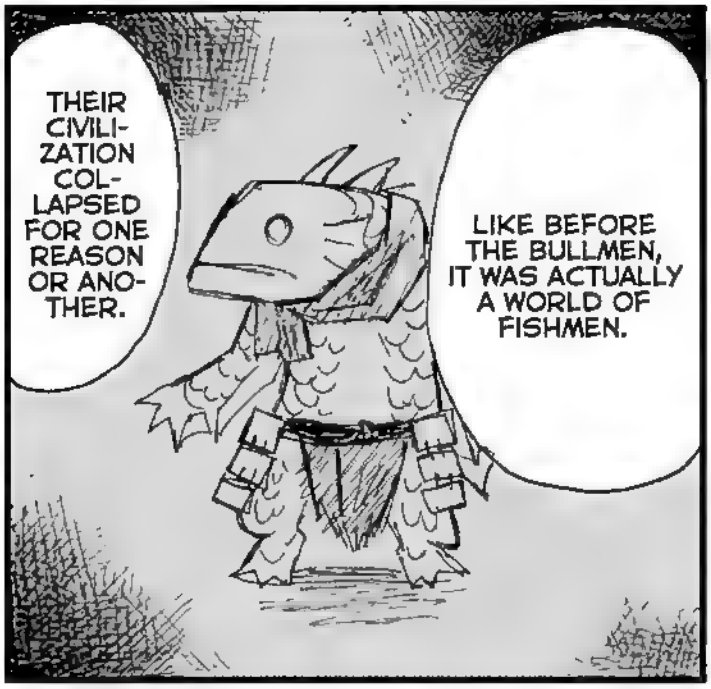


SNAKE-TYPE

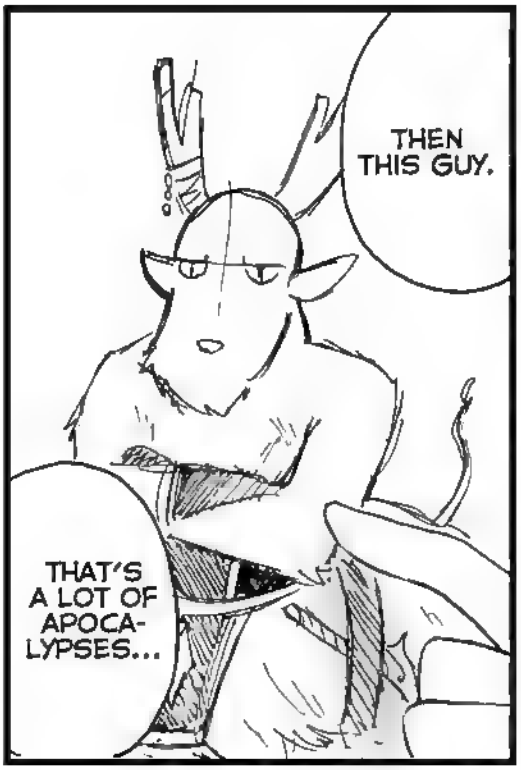

MEANING WE CAN MAKE IT SO THAT THE WORLD HAS ALREADY ENDED ONCE BEFORE.
BOTH?
WHY NOT BOTH, THEN?

WE TALKED ABOUT THEM BEING VIOLENT AND DUMB, SO I'M THINKING OF USING ONE OF THESE TWO...
BUT I COULDN'T DECIDE...

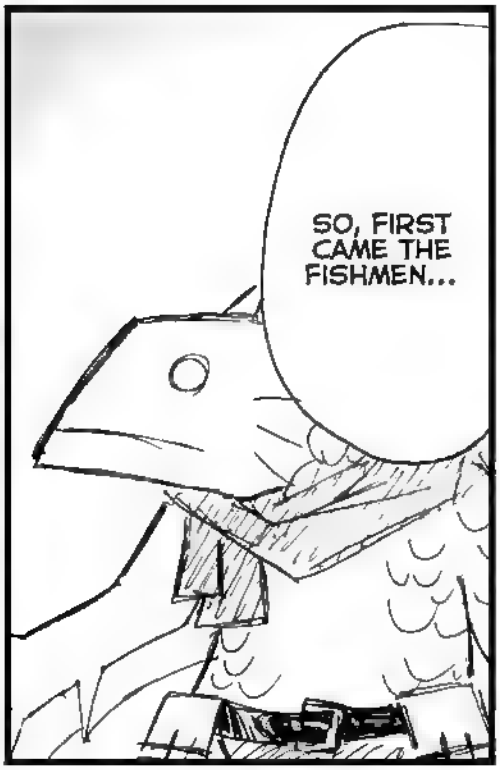
BUT THEY'RE CURRENTLY HEADING TOWARDS THEIR OWN COLLAPSE TOO.
THE BULLMEN THRIVE AFTER,

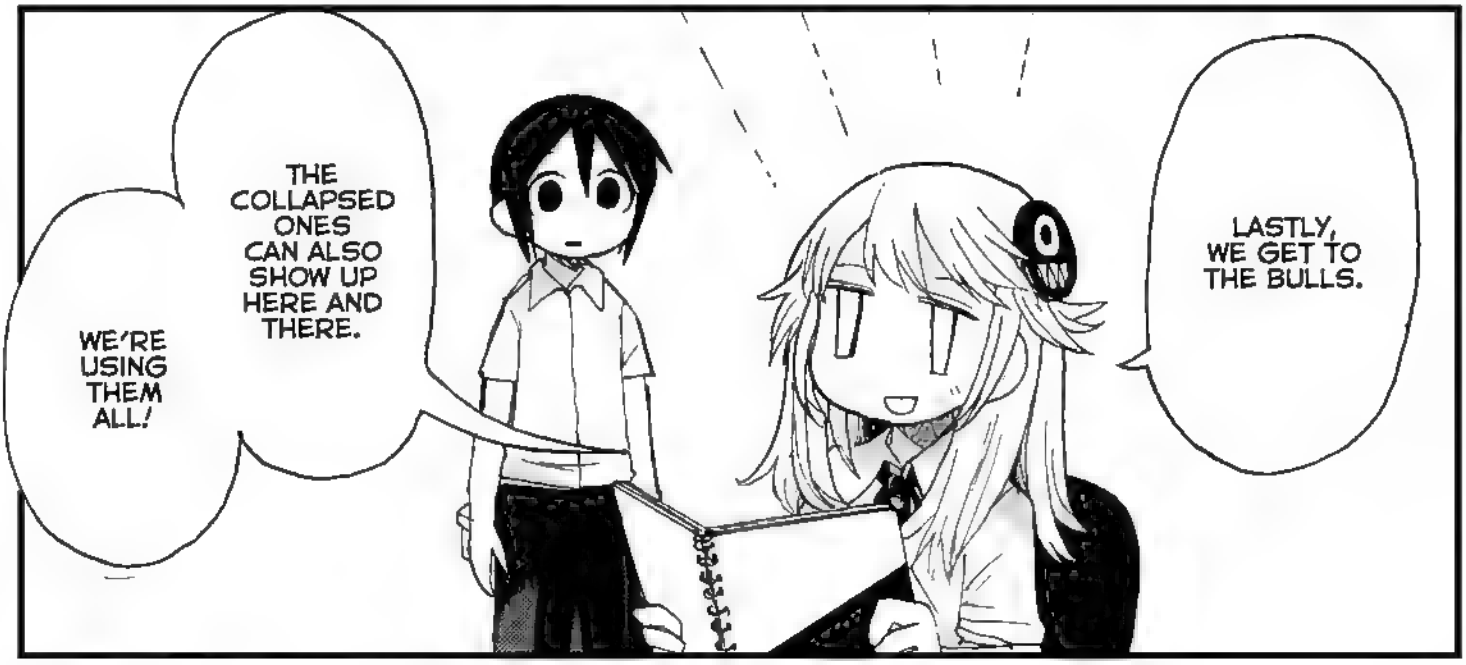

THEIR CIVILI-ZATION COL-LAPSED FOR ONE REASON OR ANO-THER.
LIKE BEFORE THE BULLMEN, IT WAS ACTUALLY A WORLD OF FISHMEN.

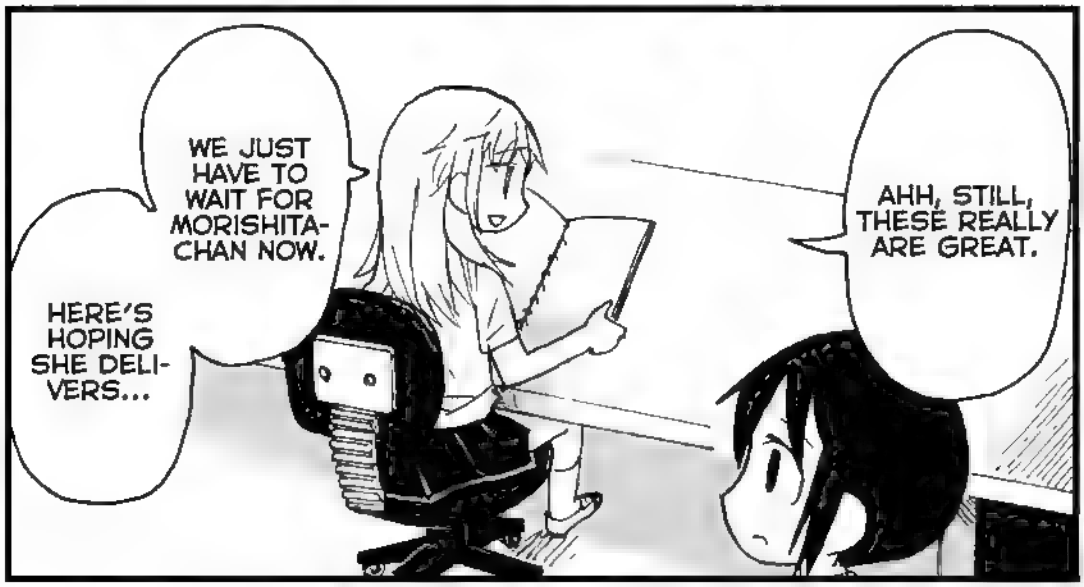
IT'D BE NICE IF WE CAN MAKE A THIRD TOO...
AND THIS IS THE SECOND WORLD.
SO, THE WORLD ENDED ONCE,
...A FOURTH TOO.

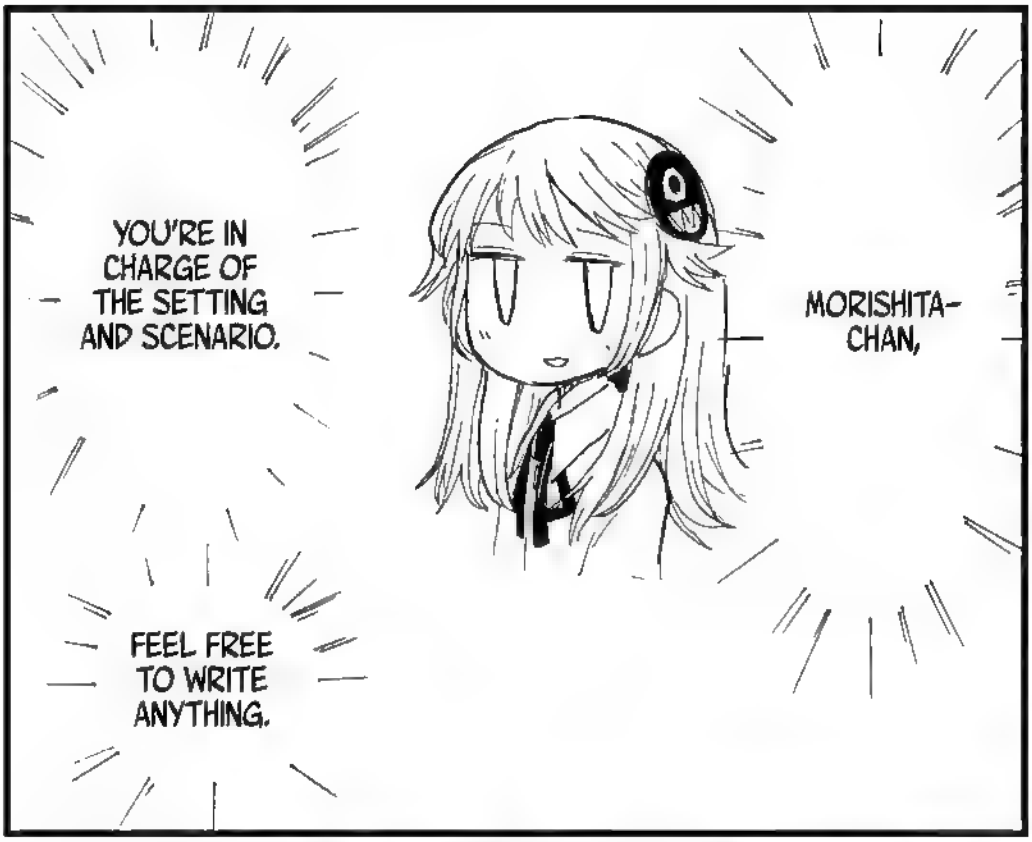

THEN THIS GUY.
THAT'S A LOT OF APOCA-LYPSES...

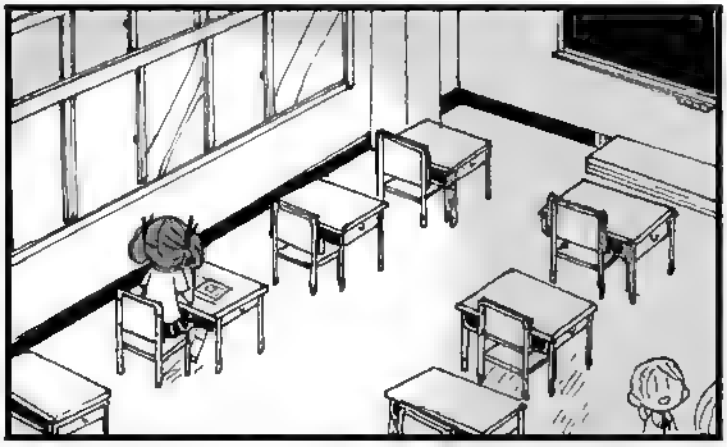
THEN THE SNAKEMEN,


SO, FIRST CAME THE FISHMEN...

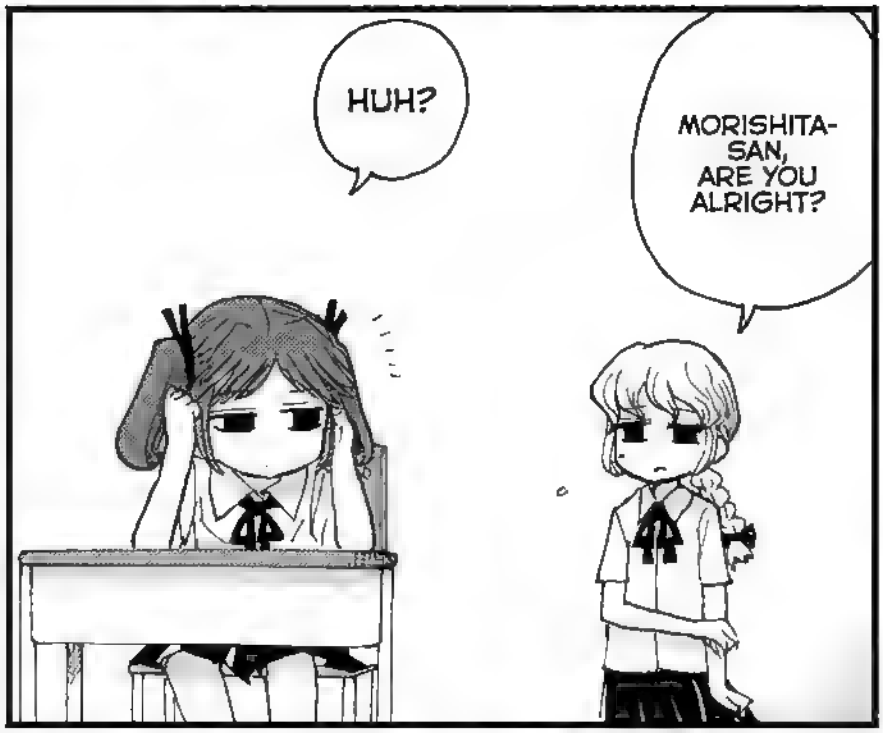

WE'RE USING THEM ALL!
THE COLLAPSED ONES CAN ALSO SHOW UP HERE AND THERE.
LASTLY, WE GET TO THE BULLS.


HERE'S HOPING SHE DELI-VERS...
WE JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR MORISHITA-CHAN NOW.
AHH, STILL, THESE REALLY ARE GREAT.


YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THE SETTING AND SCENARIO.
MORISHITA-CHAN,
FEEL FREE TO WRITE ANYTHING.



YOU SEEM DOWN.
I HAVE SOME-THING ON MY MIND...


HUH?
MORISHITA-SAN, ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

SAY.

...
SAY...

HUH ...?
WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE WORLD GOING TO BE LIKE AFTER THE APOCALYPSE?

I SEE...
THAT'S WHAT'S ON MY MIND RIGHT NOW...

GUESS SO.
I-I DON'T KNOW...
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME THAT?

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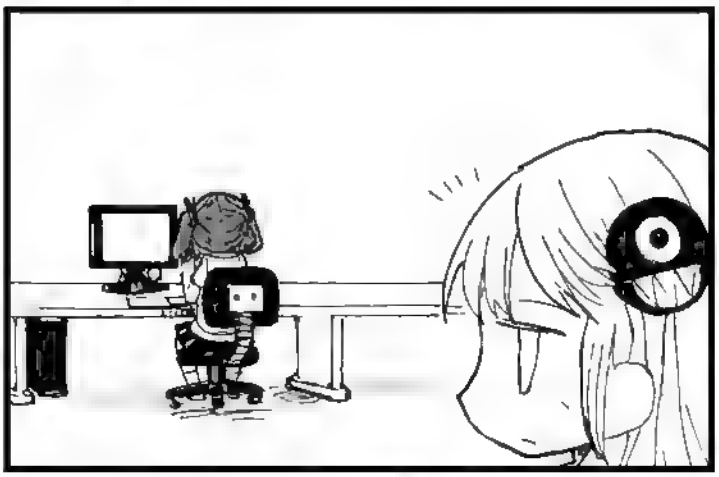

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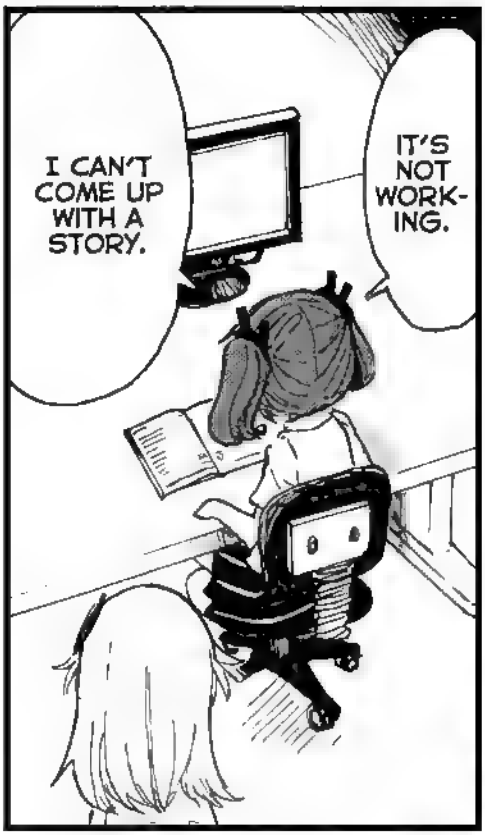
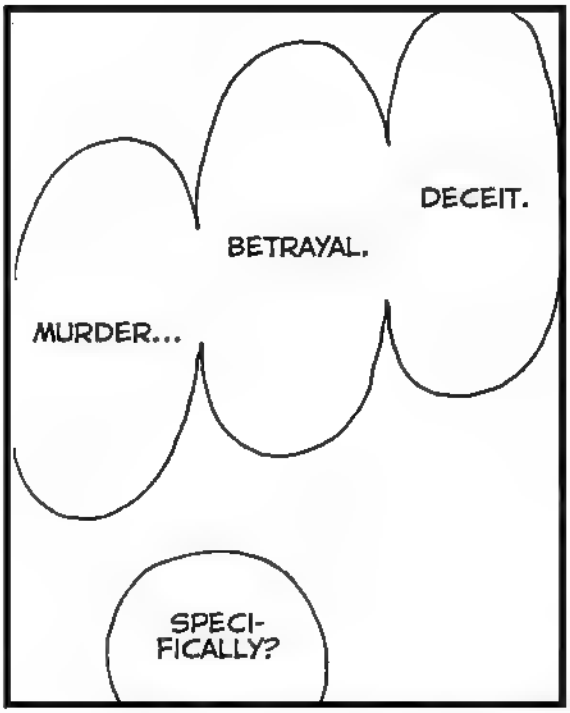

I CAN'T COME UP WITH A STORY.
IT'S NOT WORKING.

APOCALYPSE

HOW IS IT GOING?
WELL? MORISHITA-CHAN?
WROTE ANYTHING YET?
HUH?

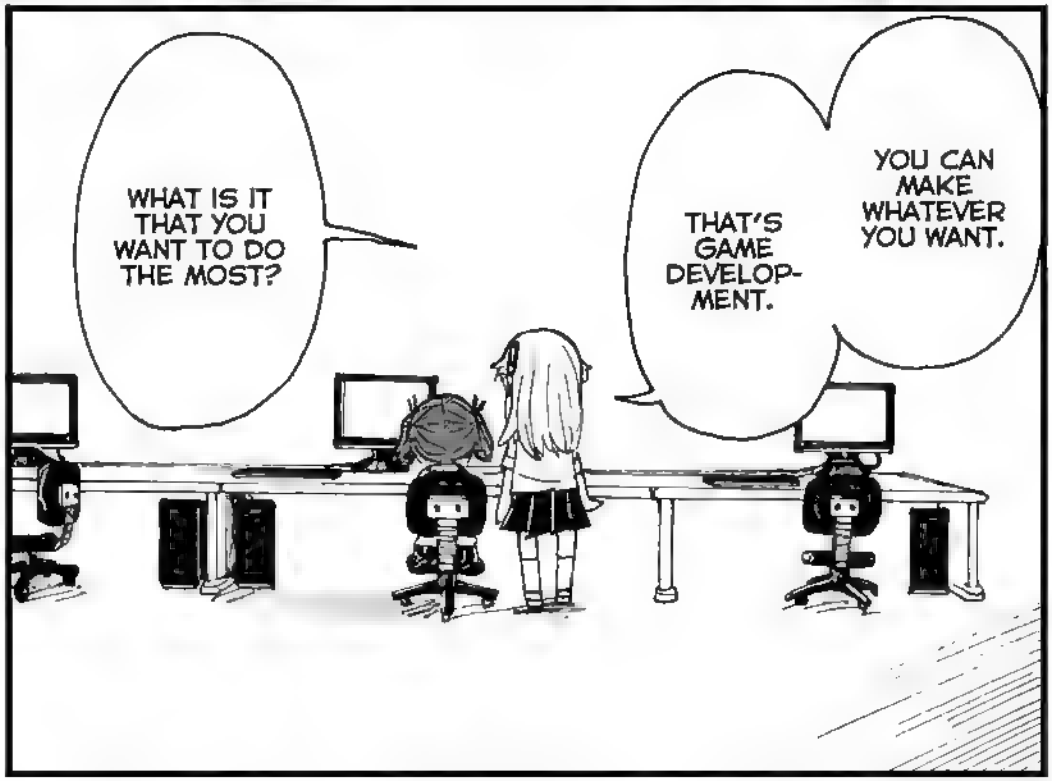

DECEIT.
BETRAYAL.
MURDER...
SPECI-FICALLY?

WHAT WAS IT?
BUT YOU MUST HAVE HAD SOMETHING IN MIND BACK WHEN YOU SUGGESTED WE MAKE AN RPG.
I SEE ...
WHAT I HAD IN MIND...

JUST MAKE IT THE WAY YOU WANT.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO THINK TOO HARD ABOUT IT.

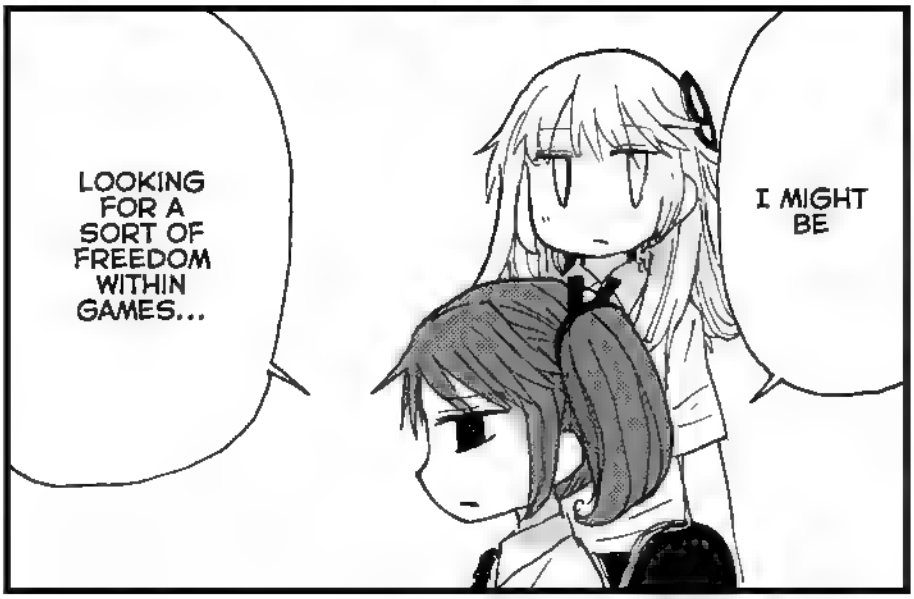
EVEN IF YOU ASK ME THAT...
...

THERE ISN'T ANYTHING.


WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT TO DO THE MOST?
THAT'S GAME DEVELOP-MENT.
YOU CAN MAKE WHATEVER YOU WANT.

EATING PLENTY IN A GAME DOESN'T FILL YOUR STOMACH IN REALITY.
GAMES ARE NOT REAL.
DOING IT WITHIN A GAME WOULD BE A DIFFERENT MATTER ENTIRELY.
EVEN IF THERE IS,

WHY DO YOU PLAY?
WHAT IS THAT SOMETHING?
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING THAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR IN THEM.
BUT WHEN YOU NORMALLY PLAY GAMES,


LOOKING FOR A SORT OF FREEDOM WITHIN GAMES...
I MIGHT BE

WELL...

I FEEL LIKE GAMES CONTAIN A PART OF ME THAT I'VE LOST.

I FEEL COMPLETE WHEN I PLAY.

EVEN MYSELF.

THE WORLD,

PEOPLE,

GAMES MAKE IT POSSIBLE.

AN EMOTION THAT YOU CAN ONLY CALL INSANITY DRIVES ME TO KILL

NOT BY INSTINCT.

DISPOSED OF BY REASON AND ORDER.

IT'S A FRAGMENT OF MY INCOMPLETE SELF,

IT'S WHERE THE PART OF ME THAT I HAVE TO ABANDON IN ORDER TO LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD IS.

IT'S THERE.

WHEN I DEMOLISH BUILDINGS.

WHEN I SHOOT AND KILL PEOPLE.

I MEET A SHADOW OF MYSELF THERE.

THAT'S WHY I FEEL COMPLETE WHEN I PLAY.

THAT'S GREAT.

THAT'S WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR WITHIN GAMES.
THAT'S PROBABLY THE REASON WHY I PLAY.

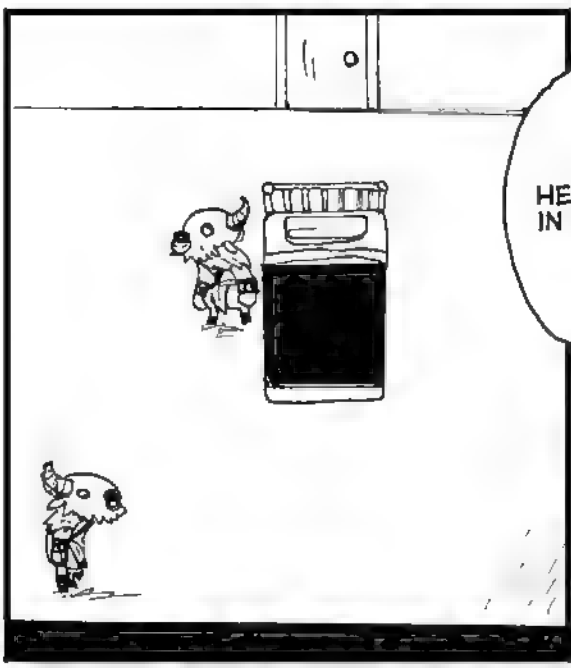
LET'S MAKE USE OF THAT, THEN.
I THINK IT'S A WONDERFUL WAY TO PLAY.
MAKE USE HOW?

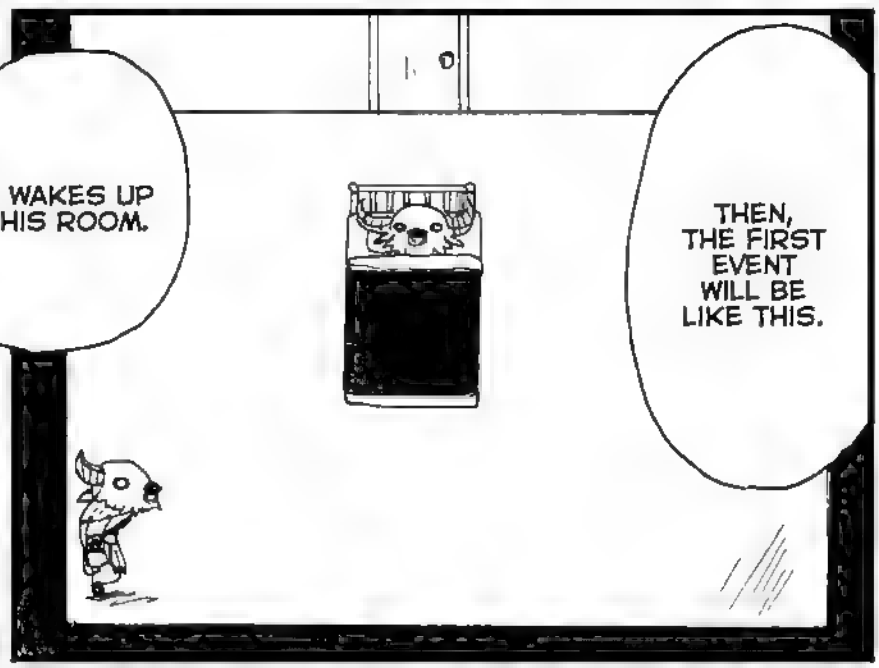
LET'S MAKE CLEAR THIS THING YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, MORISHITA-CHAN.

I'M SURE A GAME WITH YOUR STORY
WILL BE A GREAT ONE.
WE'LL DO IT LIKE THIS, THEN.
HUH.

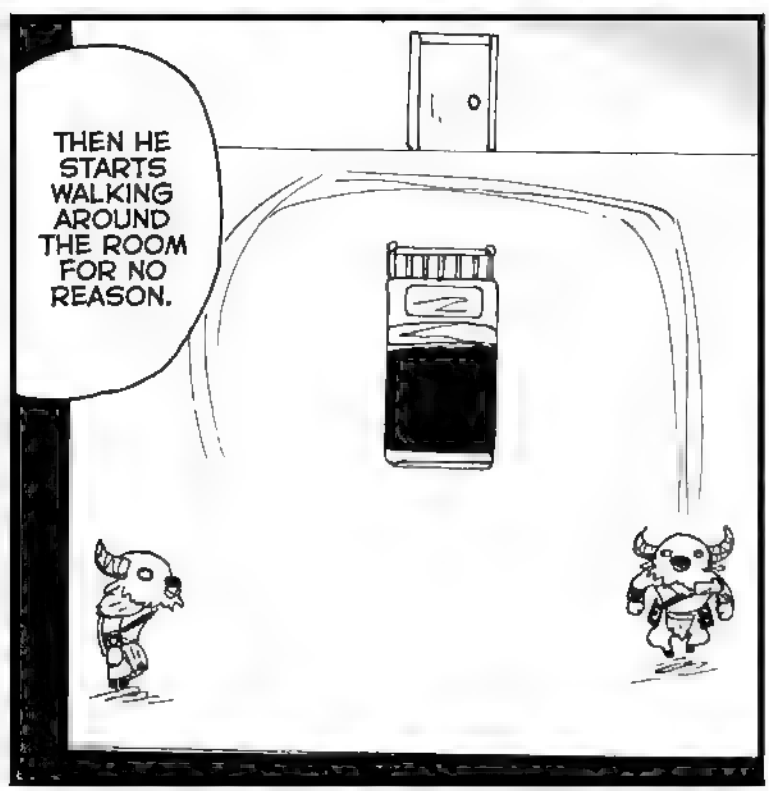
AS IF POSSESSED BY SOMETHING.
THE PROTAGONIST PERFORMS COMPLETELY ABNORMAL ACTS,
IN A COLLAPSED WORLD,

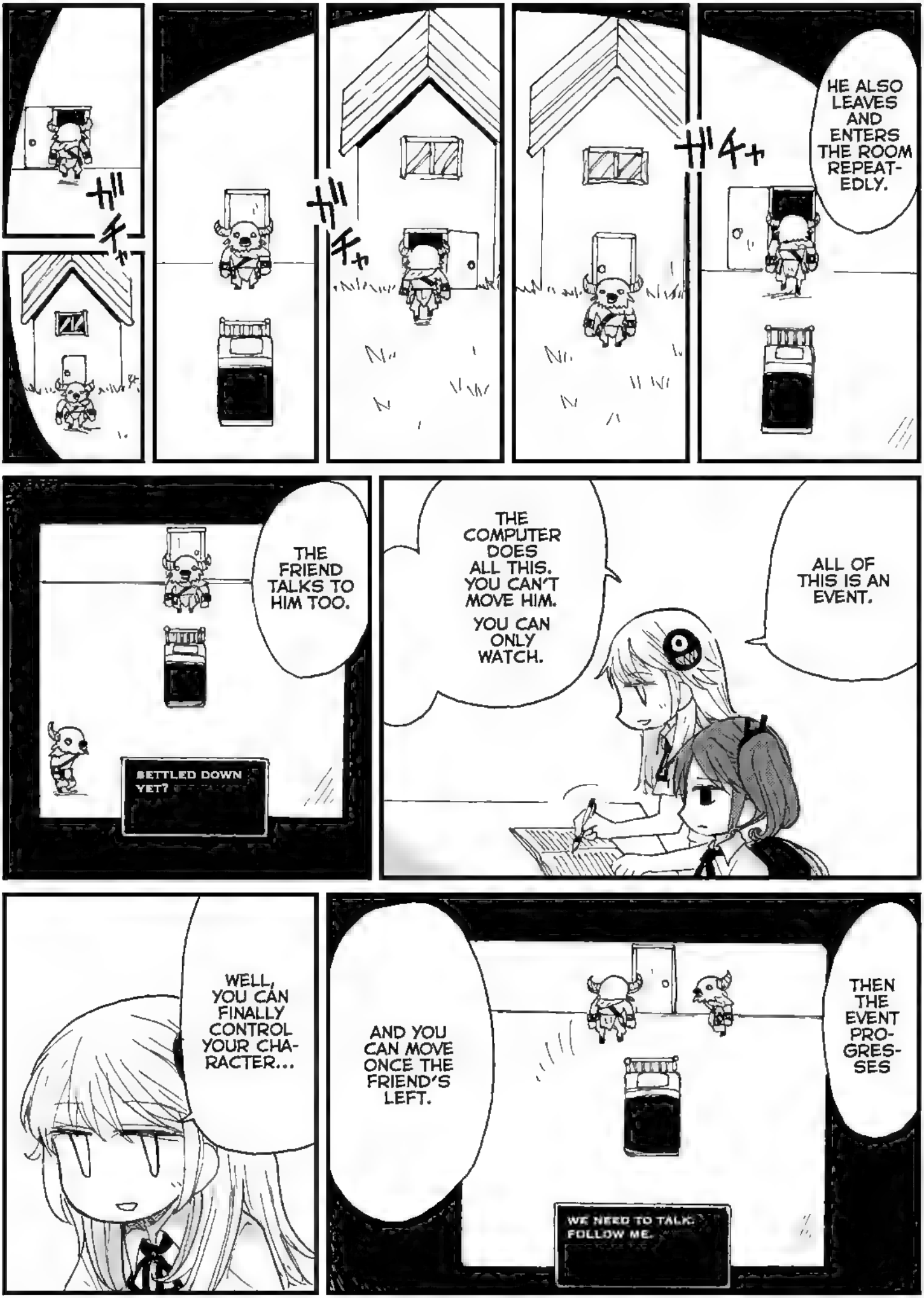
A LOOK INTO THIS EMOTION YOU CAN ONLY CALL INSANITY.


HE WAKES UP IN HIS ROOM.


THEN, THE FIRST EVENT WILL BE LIKE THIS.

NEXT, HE RAMS HIMSELF TO THE WALLS OVER AND OVER AGAIN.
THIS WORRIES HIS FRIEND.
ARE YOU OKAY?


THEN HE STARTS WALKING AROUND THE ROOM FOR NO REASON.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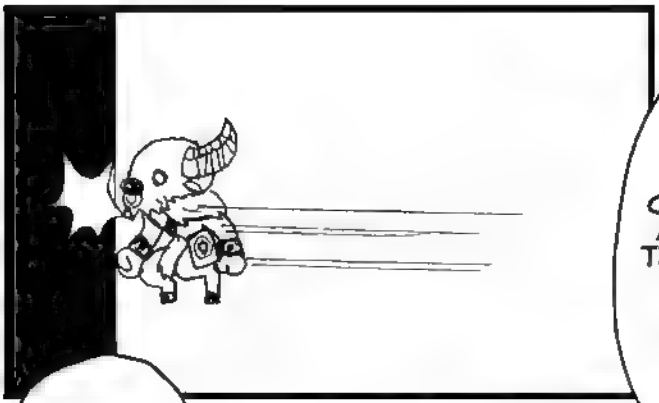
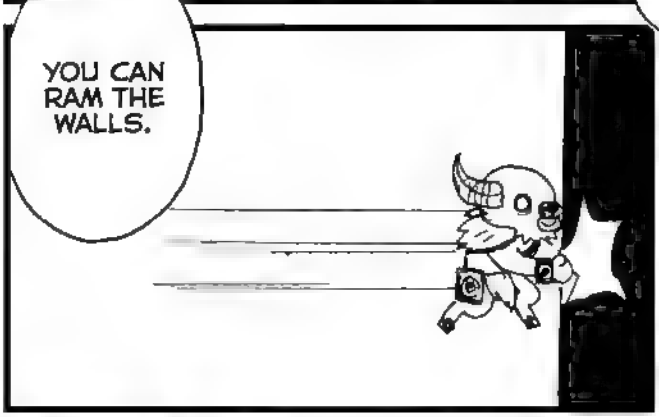
HE ALSO LEAVES AND ENTERS THE ROOM REPEATEDLY.
THE FRIEND TALKS TO HIM TOO.
SETTLED DOWN YET?
THE COMPUTER DOES ALL THIS. YOU CAN'T MOVE HIM.
YOU CAN ONLY WATCH.
ALL OF THIS IS AN EVENT.
WELL, YOU CAN FINALLY CONTROL YOUR CHARACTER...
AND YOU CAN MOVE ONCE THE FRIEND'S LEFT.
THEN THE EVENT PROGRESSES
WE NEED TO TALK. FOLLOW ME.



YOU CAN WALK AROUND THE ROOM LIKE YOU'RE CRAZY.
BUT THERE ISN'T MUCH TO DO OTHER THAN THE THINGS THE COM-PUTER DID FOR YOU.


YOU CAN RAM THE WALLS.

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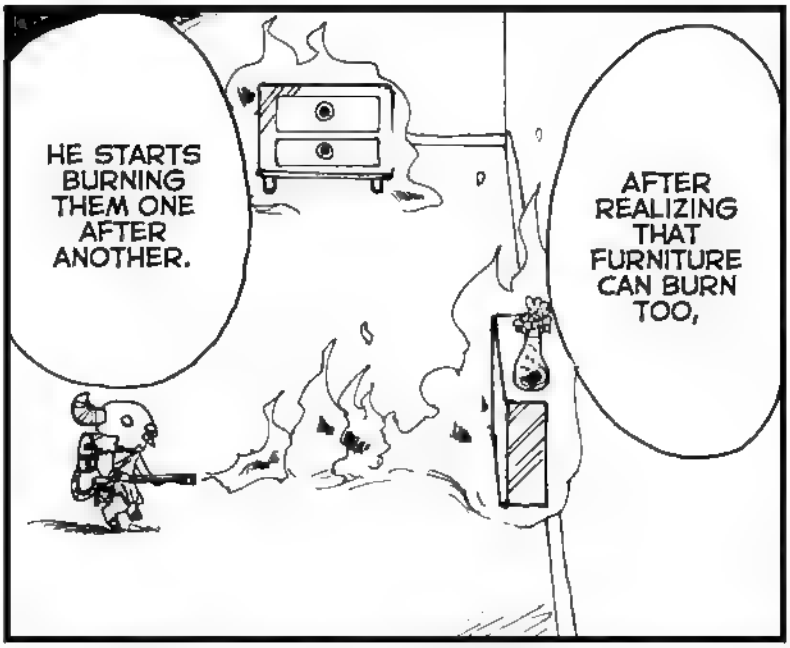
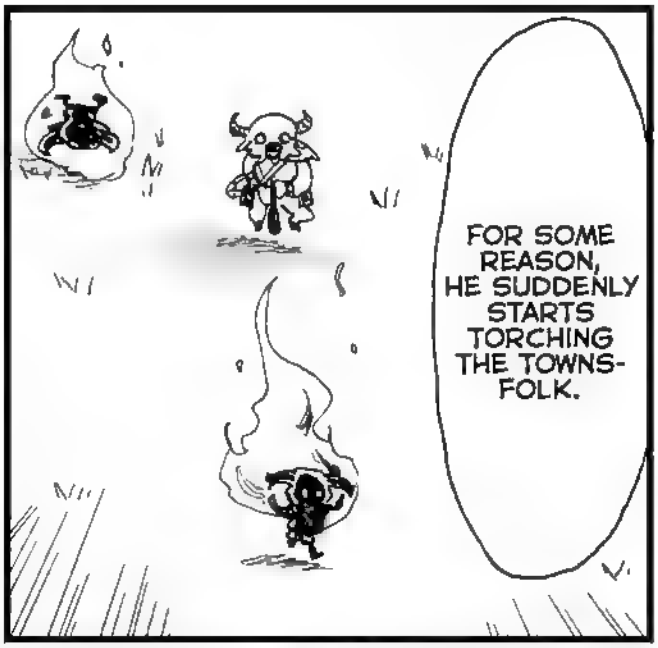
YOU CAN LEAVE AND ENTER THE ROOM AGAIN.

IS THE FACT THAT HE'S GOTTEN HIMSELF A FLAME-THROWER.
WHAT'S COM-PLETELY STRIPPED HIM OF REASON

THAT'S...


HE STARTS BURNING THEM ONE AFTER ANOTHER.
AFTER REALIZING THAT FURNITURE CAN BURN TOO,


FOR SOME REASON, HE SUDDENLY STARTS TORCHING THE TOWNS-FOLK.

AND HE BURNS THEM TOO.

HE ISN'T THERE TO STEAL FOOD

AND BURNS THE OWNER.

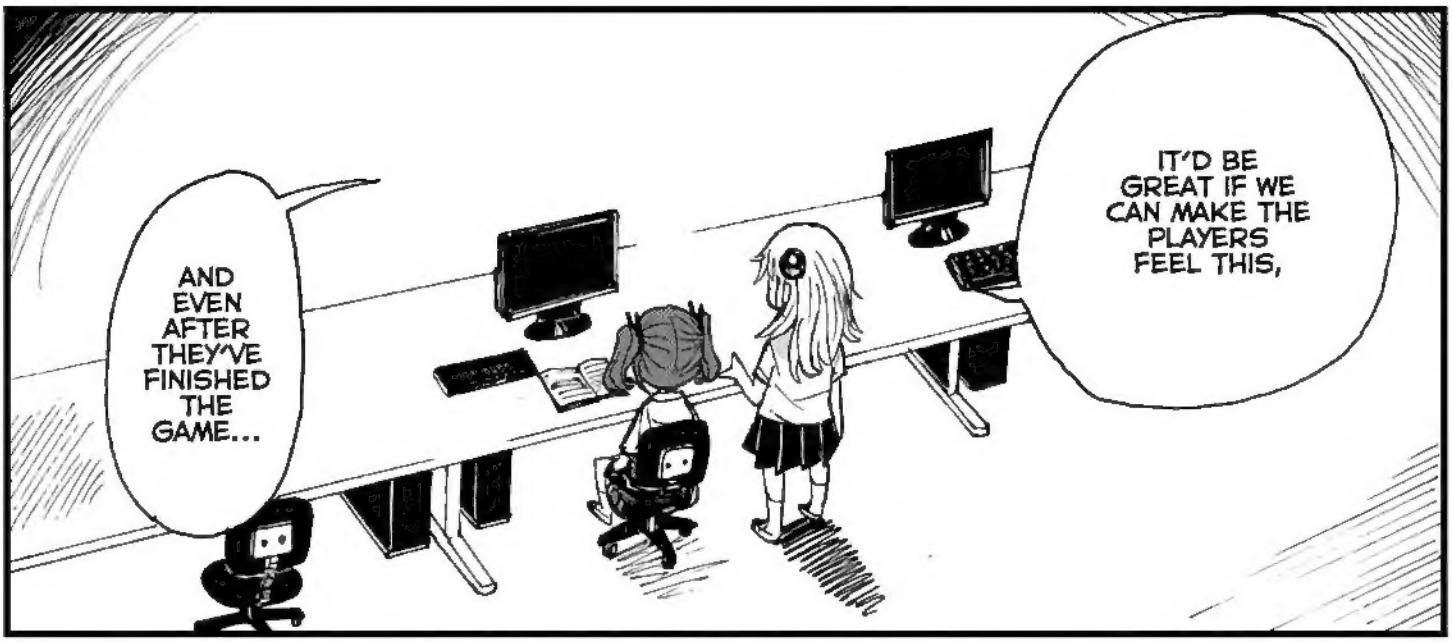
HE BREAKS INTO THE RESTAU-RANT

HE THINKS TO HIMSELF.
BUT AS HE TURNS THE TOWN INTO A SEA OF FLAME,

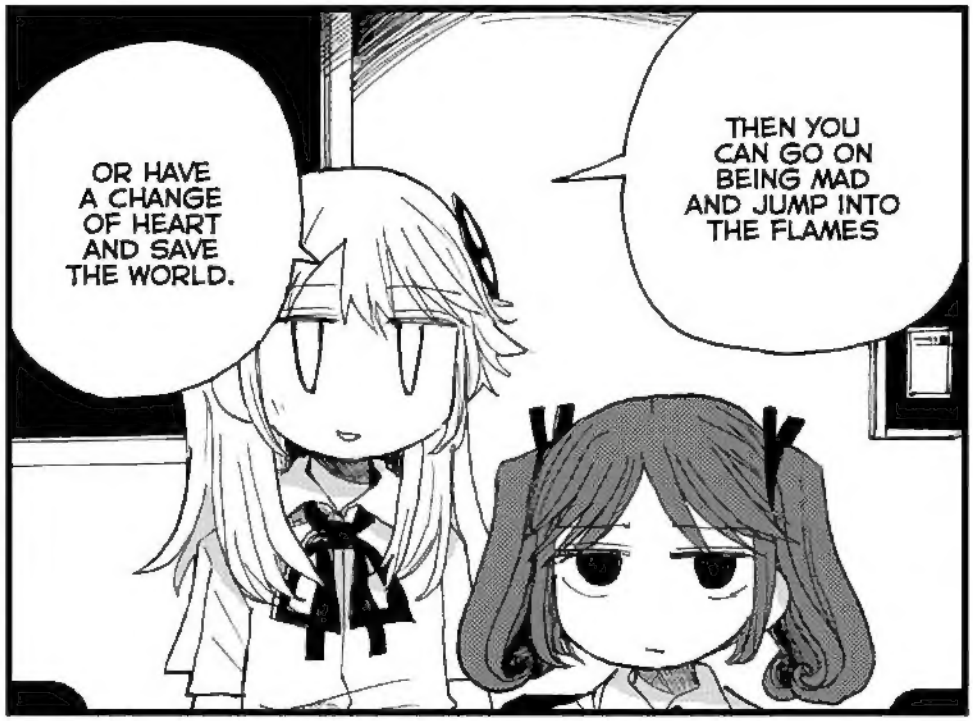
"IS THIS REALLY WHAT I'D DO
"WITH ABSO-LUTE POWER?"

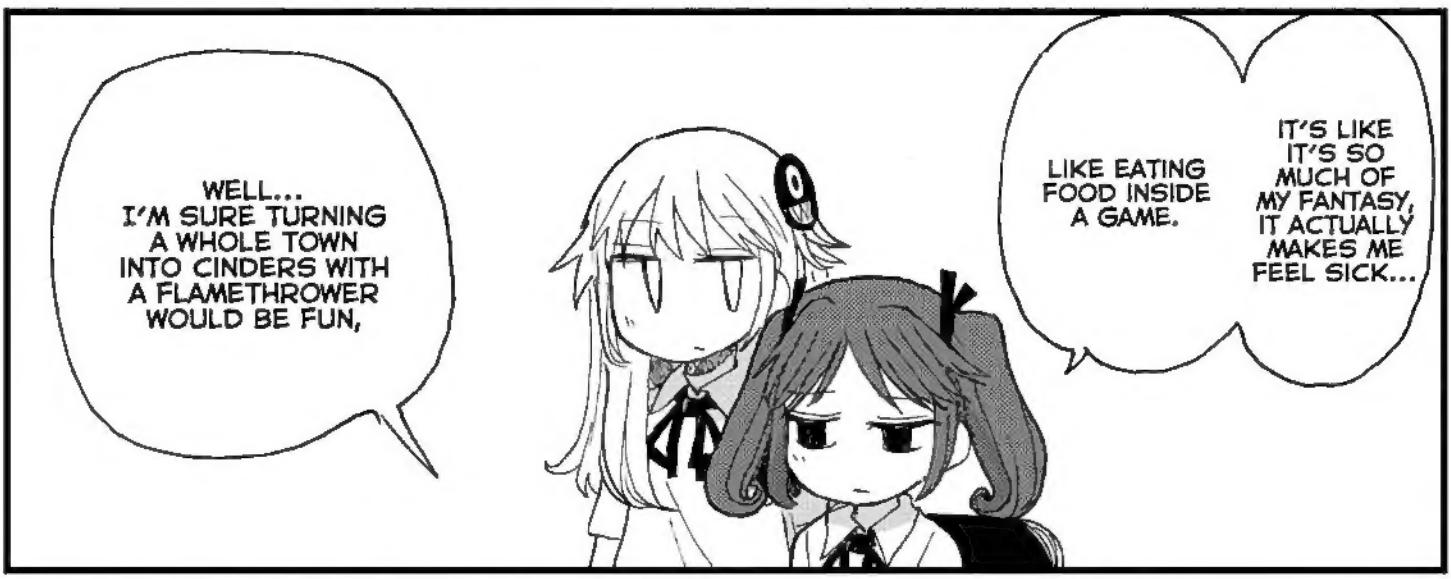
"IS THIS REALLY WHAT I WANTED?"

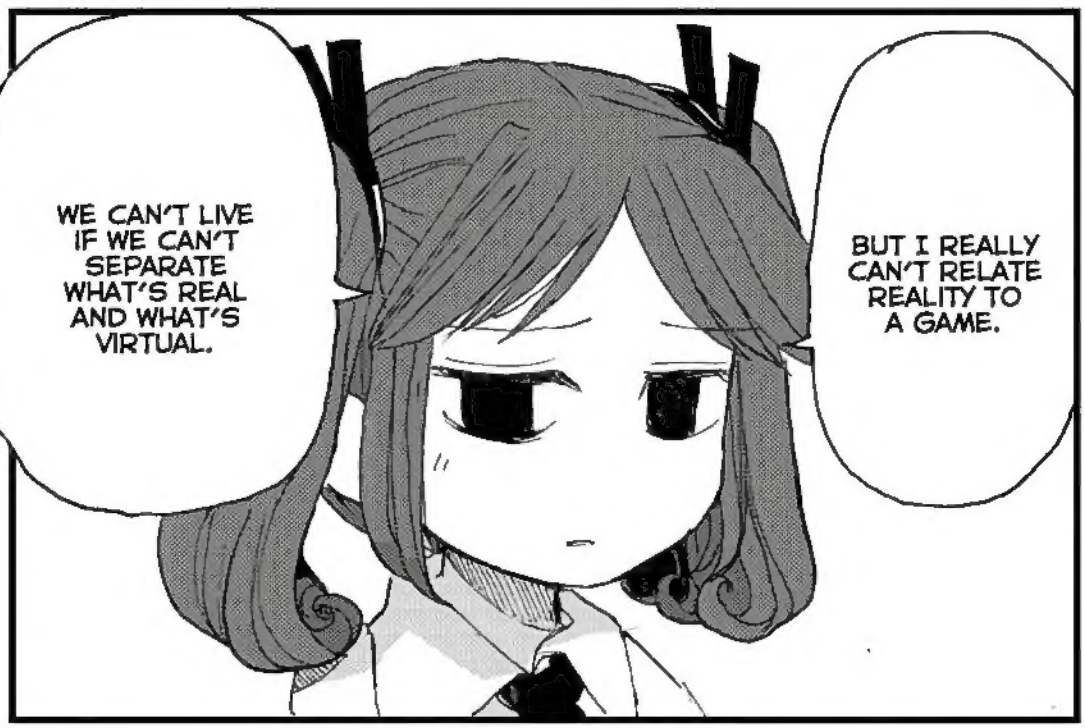
"WOULD I STILL BE DOING THIS?"
"EVEN IF THE WORLD DIDN'T END,


AND EVEN AFTER THEY'VE FINISHED THE GAME...
IT'D BE GREAT IF WE CAN MAKE THE PLAYERS FEEL THIS,

BUT THAT'S ...


OR HAVE A CHANGE OF HEART AND SAVE THE WORLD.
THEN YOU CAN GO ON BEING MAD AND JUMP INTO THE FLAMES


WELL... I'M SURE TURNING A WHOLE TOWN INTO CINDERS WITH A FLAMETHROWER WOULD BE FUN,
LIKE EATING FOOD INSIDE A GAME.
IT'S LIKE IT'S SO MUCH OF MY FANTASY, IT ACTUALLY MAKES ME FEEL SICK...


WE CAN'T LIVE IF WE CAN'T SEPARATE WHAT'S REAL AND WHAT'S VIRTUAL.
BUT I REALLY CAN'T RELATE REALITY TO A GAME.

THERE ISN'T A SINGLE PERSON ON EARTH THAT WOULD HONESTLY MISTAKE GAMES FOR REALITY.

IT CAN BE SIMILAR, BUT IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

REAL LIFE IS DIFFERENT FROM GAMES.

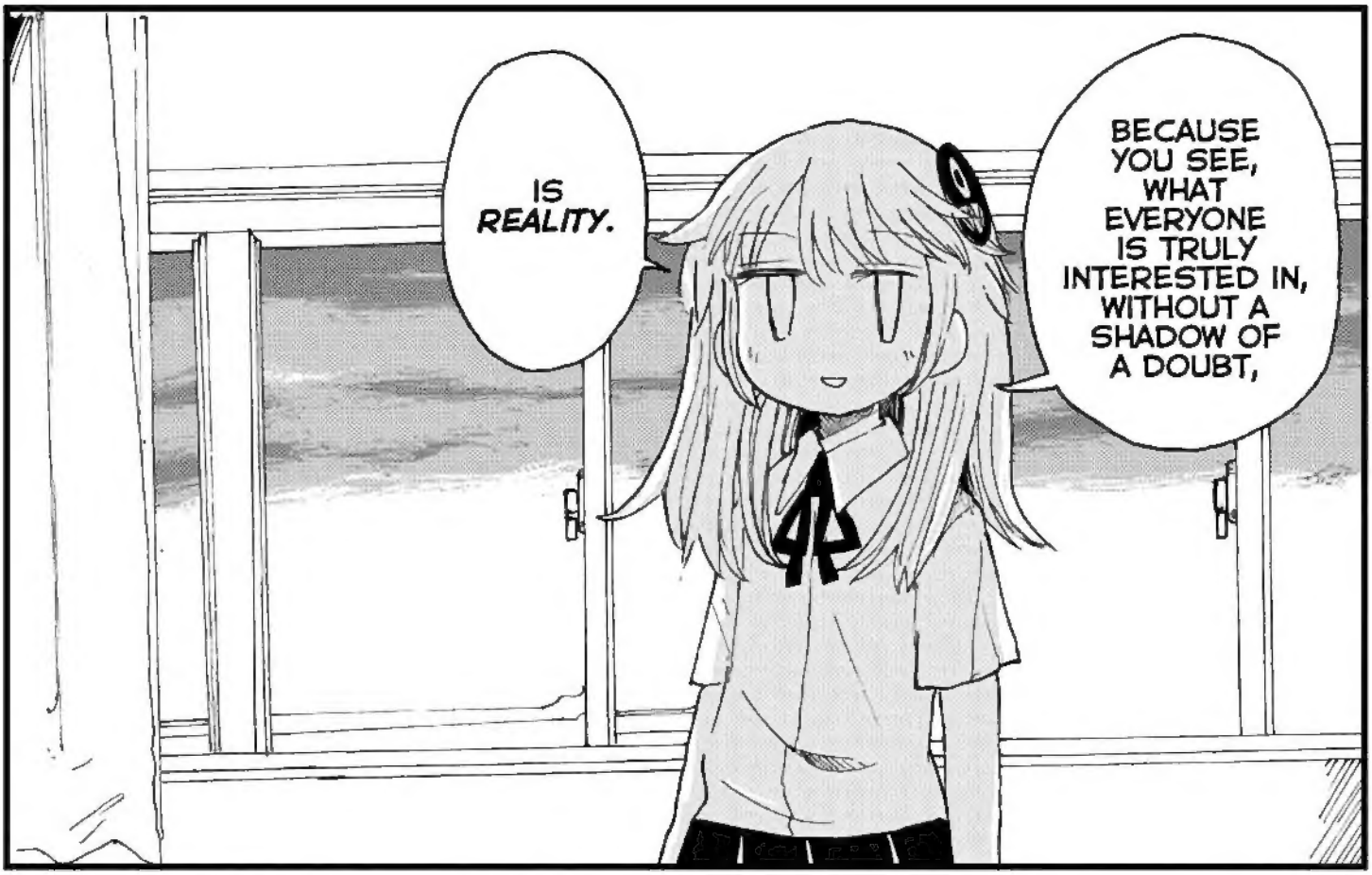
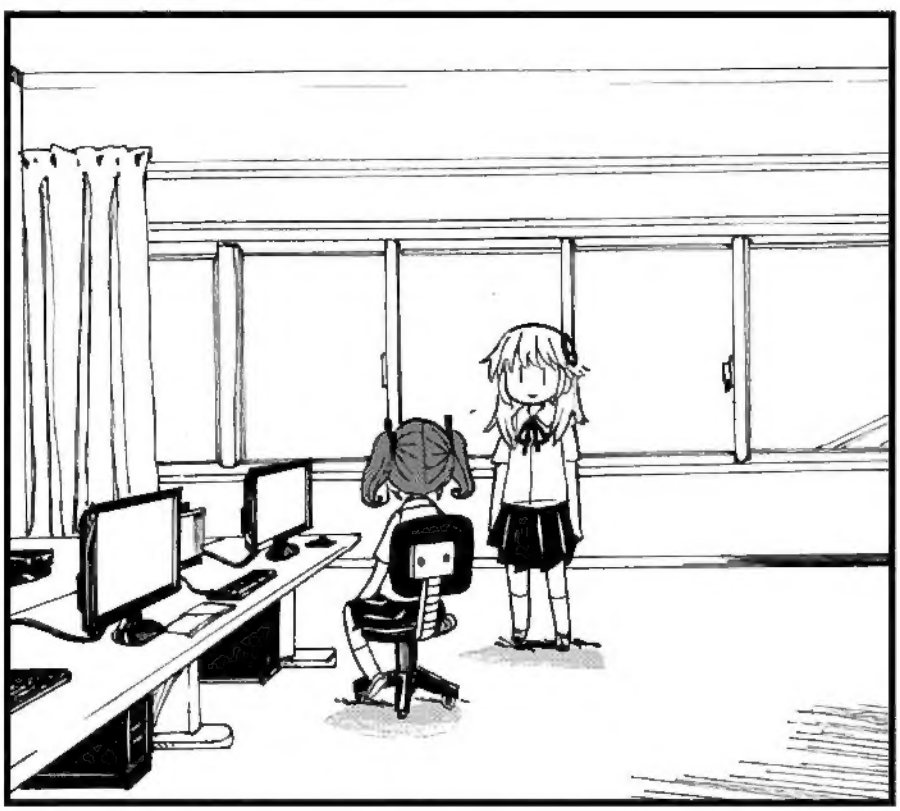
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.

GAMES MIMIC REALITY.

REALITY DOESN'T MIMIC GAMES.

...LIKE A VAGUE NIGHTMARE THAT LINGERS ON TO TORTURE US IN THE MORNING.

GAMES ENCROACH UPON REALITY...


BECAUSE YOU SEE, WHAT EVERYONE IS TRULY INTERESTED IN, WITHOUT A SHADOW OF A DOUBT,
IS *REALITY.*

PRESIDENT, ARE YOU...
...A NUTJOB?